

THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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the pressure of external circumstances, forbid their remaining where they are. They must move on, or they will be driven on—and with their policy set in the direction it has lately taken, they cannot be long before they arrive at the payment by the State of all religious teachers.

The views you entertain of the spiritual nature and objects of Christ's Church, and of their close and inseparable connexion with the supreme interests of man, will not suffer you to witness unmoved the ill-concealed approach of Parliament to this consummation. A general election is at hand—when every citizen is expected to bear testimony, in some shape, for or against the prominent features of policy adopted by the Legislature. We conjure you, Fellow-Dissenters, to seize the opportunity thus providentially put within your reach, for entering your calm but decided protest against those political principles which you believe to be practically subversive of religion. We beg of you to beware lest you increase the threatened danger by giving to them even an indirect and constructive sanction. You are called upon by the constitution to deliver judgment. So deliver it, that none may mistake your sense of the wrong done, doing, and contemplated, by Parliament to the religious welfare of your fellow-countrymen and of yourselves.

We do not presume to prescribe for you the precise mode in which your protest may best be made, nor the exact amount of agreement in your distinctive principles which you should require in parliamentary candidates, before you give them the support of your votes. We prefer to leave this to the decision of your own judgment. But we venture to remind you that no protest can avail which is not thoroughly intelligible, not to your own consciences only, but to the parties whom you seek to impress—none can be effectual which does not bear upon its front the stamp of earnestness. You are bound to make the House of Commons understand that your aim is neither selfish nor narrow—neither partial nor intolerant—and that in exercising or refusing to exercise the franchise on this occasion, you are governed by a simple concern to rescue religion from the meddling interference of statesmen.

Bear with us, Fellow-Dissenters, for a moment or two, whilst we point out the special fitness of the present occasion, for pursuing the line of electoral policy which we now recommend.

Look at the state of parties! What difference exists between them which should induce you, with a view to your country's welfare, to promote the predominance of either of them? What single question of importance depends upon the possession of office by this party or by that? So nearly identical are their views, that the general election, unless made to turn upon the point we have adverted to, must be decided by merely nominal and personal considerations. On organic change, on commercial reform, on all ecclesiastical questions, on the poor-law, on the game-laws, on finance and taxation, in the government of Ireland, in the management of the colonies, and in the maintenance of foreign relations—future cabinets may be expected to pursue much the same course, whether borne into power by a Liberal or by a Conservative majority. No damage, therefore, can be done to any great national interests by your refusal to take part in contests which allow you no opportunity of bearing witness against the ecclesiastical policy recently pursued by Parliament. No question of moment will be endangered or obstructed. Past events have cleared the ground for you. Public expectation anticipates your course. So favourable a conjunction may never occur again. Self-respect, honour, expediency, duty, combine to hedge up for you this only consistent path. The avoidance of it will gain you nothing but the contempt of those whom, in that case, it would be your aim to serve.

The step we recommend may, in some instances, carry you right athwart personal respects and friendships. We are not disposed to esteem such things lightly. But you sustain a closer relationship—you owe a prior duty—to truth than to any individual, whatever may be his qualities. That truth you have seen

treated with haughty disdain—denied, scorned, insulted, vilified. Conduct which, had it affected you only, might have been gracefully forgiven, must not be overlooked when it heaps contempt upon your principles. It behoves you to deal with men guilty of a grave political offence, not in the spirit of revenge, but as a public example—to warn future representatives from a like evil, rather than to mortify such as have already committed it. Parliamentary representation will degenerate into a farce if such proceedings as marked the passing of the Maynooth Act, and the grant voted on the Minutes of Council, are permitted to pass unrebuked. Concern for the common weal calls aloud for severity on the wrong-doers. It behoves you to be firm and inexorable in passing judgment. However painful the duty, you are not at liberty to spare.

Fellow-Dissenters, Glance forward to the future. What are the questions which promise to occupy the attention of the next Parliament? During the coming seven years, what topic of discussion will be thrown most frequently upon the surface? Do not all the signs of the times point to the probability that the relation of the State to the religious bodies of the empire will, in one shape or other, come up perpetually for consideration? Can the Church in Ireland remain as it is? Have not the leaders of both the dominant parties given you fair warning of their intentions with respect to the Roman Catholic priesthood? Are not the affairs of every British colony thrown into confusion by ecclesiastical encroachments? Must not the educational plan of Government undergo some change? And with such prospects before you, can you, when the Constitution invites you to speak, maintain silence on the only matter likely, during the next Parliament, to involve, to a serious extent, the moral condition of the community? At present, you may not have it in your power to send more than a very few members into the House likely to give expression to your distinctive views—and, wherever this can be done, we doubt not you will do it. But you can, if you will, convince the Legislature that there exists a large body of constituents, numerous enough to turn the balance of parties, with whose interests it is unsafe to tamper—who have sufficient self-respect to resent gratuitous insult—attachment enough to their principles to stand by them against any and every political confederacy—and resolution enough to cast off allies who have thought fit to betray them. Such a display of quiet determination on your part will not be without its influence on the proceedings and decisions of the next Parliament. Let it but be seen that you can think for yourselves, feel strongly, and act independently, and many a floating vision which statesmen are hoping, ere long, to realize, will be dissipated like a dream.

Fellow-Dissenters, the time is close at hand. Take your resolution at once! Publish it to the world! Stand by it unshrinkingly when the day of election shall arrive! We have appealed to some motives which we think ought to sway you. We conclude by reminding you of your illustrious ancestors. Small is the sacrifice demanded at your hands, in vindication of God's truth from the assaults of State power, compared with that which they cheerfully rendered. Let it be seen that you inherit their spirit—that you have caught their falling mantle! Check the presumption of meddling politicians, who would irreverently carry with them the ark of God, in the hope of thereby influencing their contests with the people. Whether you vote or stand aloof, let your conduct be a dignified and intelligible protest against all State interference with religion.

Abley, Edward, Hereford	Chaplin, John, Colchester
Ackroyd, John, Halifax	Clarke, Ebenezer, Walthamstow
Anstie, George W., Devizes	Conder, Josiah, London
Appleton, Henry, jun., London	Cripps, Joseph, Leicester
Ashbury, Samuel, Hanley	Crossley, John, Halifax
Baker, James, Andover	Cuzner, John H., Bristol
Baker, John, Thirsk	Dawson, Edward, Lancaster
Barge, W. H., Windsor	Edwards, John, Halifax
Barker, Francis, Pontefract	Everest, Henry, Chatham
Battcock, J., Shoreham	Fitt, Thomas, Southampton
Belsey, Isaac, Rochester	Forbes, Henry, Bradford
Bilton, William, Portsmouth	Foster, John, Devonport
Blackburn, Thomas, Liverpool	Fox, Samuel, Nottingham
Branch, John, Eye	Gill, George, Nottingham
Burd, Wm., jun., Manchester	Gilpin, Charles, London

Groube, Captain Thomas, R.N., Honiton	Robertson, C., Liverpool
Grundy, Thomas, Northampton	Rutt, Henry, London
Hadfield, George, Manchester	Salt, Titus, Bradford
Hamer, John, Preston	Sanderson, R. B., Newcastle-on-Tyne
Hanbury, B., London	Shaw, Henry, Huddersfield
Hare, J. M., London	Shaw, James, Huddersfield
Harris, W. D., Buckingham	Shirley, G., Rochester
Harrison, G. W., Wakefield	Shorrock, Eccles, Blackburn
Heaps, T. A., Huddersfield	Small, T., Boston
Herbert, Thomas, Nottingham	Smith, John W., Sheffield
Higgs, William, Gloucester	Spurgeon, B. W., Derby
Holladay, James, Oldham	Stevenson, George, Derby
Kell, S. C., Huddersfield	Stock, John, Chatham
Jones, C. H., ditto	Stroud, Wm., M.D., London
Lankester, E., M.D., London	Sturge, Joseph, Birmingham
Leavers, William, ditto	Swindell, Samuel, Halifax
Leese, Joseph, jun., Manchester	Thompson, Thos., Poundsford park, near Taunton
Lowthorp, Sir W., Hull	Tice, William, Christchurch
Malden, William, Chester	Tillet, J. Henry, Norwich
Mallinson, G., Huddersfield	Toone, John, Salisbury
Mallinson, Thomas, ditto	Trehane, James, Totnes
March, Charles, Gloucester	Tucker, William, Totnes
Miall, Edward, London	Unwin, Jacob, London
Milligan, Robert, Bradford	Urquhart, Thomas, Liverpool
Morley, Samuel, London	Wilkins, John, Westbury
Morley, W. W., Reading	Wakeford, Robert, Southampton
Morris, William, Salford	Wavell, R. M., Newport, I. W.
Noble, J., Boston	Wheeler, Frederick, Rochester
Overbury, N., Westbury	Wheeler, Samuel, Rochester
Parnell, Samuel, Totnes	White, William, Bedf ord
Pinsett, R. S., Devonport	Willans, William, Huddersfield
Priee, Dr., Thomas, London	Wilson, Joshua, London
Petrie, John, Rochdale	Windeatt, Thomas, Tavistock
Rathbone, James, Macclesfield	Windeatt, W. F., Totnes
Rawlings, C. E., Liverpool	Woodward, J., Macclesfield
Ray, John, Windsor	Wyles, Thomas, Gloucester
Reed, Charles, London	Young, Joseph, Chatham
Rees, William, Gloucester	
Richardson, James, Leeds	

DISSENTERS AND THE GENERAL ELECTION.

NORWICH.

IMPORTANT CONFERENCE OF NONCONFORMIST ELECTORS.

On Monday last, a very influential meeting of Nonconformist electors resident in Norwich, East and West Norfolk, Yarmouth, and Thetford, was held in the Assembly rooms, Norwich, for the purpose of determining upon the course to be pursued at the coming election. About 250 electors were present. On the motion of Mr. Councillor Darkins, the Mayor of Norwich was called to the chair, who briefly introduced the business of the meeting, and called on Mr. Tillett to move the first resolution.

J. H. TILLETT, Esq., rose and called attention to the peculiar circumstances in which the Nonconformist body were now placed. He referred to the recent educational measure as involving two principles—the right of the Government to interfere in religious matters, and the propriety of a legislative endowment of conflicting sects of religion. He alluded to the declaration of Lord John Russell, expressing his increased attachment to the Establishment principle, and his desire to see the Roman Catholic priesthood endowed. He called attention to the addresses of some of the Ministerial candidates, in which they approved of the endowment of all sects. Under all these circumstances he contended that it was the paramount duty of Nonconformists to adhere manfully to their great principles. He then referred to the position of affairs in Norwich, in reference to Mr. Peto, expressing his confident hope that the Whig party and journal had misrepresented his sentiments in order to deprive the Nonconformists of the honour of carrying a candidate peculiarly their own; but that, if contrary to his expectation, Mr. Peto did not avow thorough Nonconformist principles, however painful the sacrifice might be, their duty was obvious—they must repudiate him. He then moved the first resolution, which, with the rest, will be found in our advertising columns.

J. W. SHELLY, Esq., of Great Yarmouth, one of the magistrates for that borough, seconded the resolution. He stated that the time was come for the Nonconformists to urge forward an aggressive movement for the separation of Church and State. Mr. Shelley's address was listened to with marked attention, and from the position occupied by him, and his known moderation and amiableness of character, a deep impression was produced. He strenuously urged upon the meeting the duty of shewing at the next election a devoted attachment to their principles.

SAMUEL BLUNDERFIELD, Esq., Alderman of Norwich, moved the second resolution. He expressed his regret that the proposition he had to submit involved a severance of the Nonconformist body from their former political associations. The recent Education measure and the other measures in contemplation left them no alternative but to adhere to the course of duty and abide the consequences whatever they might be. He therefore, with pain, acquiesced in the resolution and expressed his earnest hope that his dissenting friends would prove faithful to their principles!

Mr. MEACHEN, of East Dereham, seconded the resolution.

The Rev. W. BROCK being loudly called for, made a very powerful and eloquent address, enforcing the resolution upon the conference. We regret our inability to give a report of his excellent remarks.

The third resolution was moved by Mr. THOMAS HARMER, of Norwich; seconded by J. W. DOWSON, Esq.

Mr. ROBERT COOKE, of Stalham, supported the resolution, and declared his determination as an elector for East Norfolk, fully to carry out the resolutions which had been adopted, and expressed his willingness to aid the cause in every way in his power.

The Rev. Jas. Brown, of North Walsham, the oldest dissenting minister in the county, stated that he was an elector for both East and West Norfolk, and that he would vote for no candidate who was not opposed to religious and educational endowments.

Mr. GOWER, of Dilham, one of the largest tenant farmers

in East Norfolk, made one of the most stirring appeals to the conference that can be well conceived, coming from a frank and honest-hearted man. He said that he had but recently been brought to see the force and truth of Nonconformist principles. He believed them to be of the most vital importance, and that they should be held as dear as life itself. He called upon the leading men present, and especially upon the electors of Norwich, in this their season of trial (in reference to Mr. Peto), to be stedfast. If he did not come up to the standard of their principles to be firm and let him go. If they were not thoroughly true to the cause they espoused, they could not expect the blessing of God.

The Rev. ANDREW REED then addressed the conference to the like effect.

Mr. HENRY BROWN, of Thetford, stated his determination to support an Anti-state-church candidate, if any such were brought forward, but he doubted the propriety of letting in a Tory. His mind was not completely satisfied as to the policy of refusing to vote for the best man [“No, no,” and universal marks of disapprobation]. “Well,” said the speaker, “my mind is not made up either way.”

Mr. SHELLY again rose, and detailed the position of parties in his borough. Having been intimately connected by the closest friendship with Mr. Rumbold, one of their present members, it was to him a most painful task for him to withhold his vote. He felt that to be his duty, and Mr. Rumbold was aware of it. The number of electors in Yarmouth was about 1,800. The number usually polled by the successful candidates varied from 600 to 800, and the majority usually from 30 to 60. The Nonconformist electors numbered from 250 to 300. In case of an opposition, therefore, the liberal candidates stood no chance without Dissenting support. He intimated that there might be an opening for a good candidate of their own.

The above is but a brief outline of this very important meeting. A very large proportion of the leading Dissenters of the city were present, and a number of delegates from Nonconformist congregations in various parts of the county. But one feeling pervaded the meeting, which was characterised by the utmost earnestness.

SOUTHAMPTON.

(From our Correspondent.)

On Thursday evening last, June 10th, a second meeting of the Nonconformists of Southampton was held at the Royal York Hotel—Mr. W. Lankester in the chair—for the purpose of taking into consideration what course of action had better be pursued by them at the general election. Resolutions binding themselves to stand aloof, unless they had an opportunity afforded them of recording their votes in favour of a candidate holding their sentiments, were unanimously passed; and it was further arranged that Mr. W. Lankester should be delegated to put questions to the candidates, with the view of eliciting their sentiments on those great subjects which now agitate the Nonconformist body. At the close of the meeting a declaration was signed by a number of persons present, pledging themselves to refuse to support any candidate favourable to a State interference with the religious education of the people. In consequence of this division of the Liberal party, the leaders of the Whigs deemed it advisable that a conference should be held between the candidates, Messrs. Cockburn and Wilcox and the Nonconformists, for the purpose of coming to some definite arrangement as to how much the former were inclined to give, and how little the latter could be induced to receive. A meeting was consequently held at the office of the *Hants Independent*, which was numerously and respectfully attended, when A. R. Cockburn, Esq., was present to explain his sentiments, and to answer any questions Dissenters might think proper to put to him. After some consultation, the following questions were proposed—and the subjoined answers are as nearly correct as the cautious replies of Mr. Cockburn would permit us to obtain:—

Question: Will you vote against the grant to Maynooth, and against all grants of public money for ecclesiastical purposes? Answer: I believe the grant to Maynooth is finally settled. As a matter of policy, I should consider it highly politic to take the Catholic clergy of Ireland into the pay of the State, believing that such a project would entirely ruin their influence with the people; and if a measure were proposed by the Government for the endowment of the Catholic Church in Ireland, out of the revenues of the Protestant Establishment, I should feel inclined to give it my support.

Question: Will you oppose all State interference with the religious education of the people? Answer: I prefer a secular system of education, and object to the Minutes of Council on account of the religious teaching they involve; but if you ask me which I prefer, ignorance and its attendant evils, or the Government educational scheme, I reply, the latter.

Question: Should a measure be proposed in Parliament for the separation of Church and State, will you give it your support? Answer: I will not: to do so would bring down upon me the ridicule of the whole House. The time is not yet arrived for a change of so great a magnitude. I believe you are right in theory, and my convictions are with you, that it would be better if the Church were separated from the State; but, so mixed up is this connexion with all the institutions of our country, that however desirable it might be to separate them, practically, it will be found impossible—at least, for some time to come.

It will be seen from the answers given to the foregoing questions, that no support can be afforded by the Nonconformist electors to the Whig candidates. The replies of Mr. Cockburn were, on the whole, a piece of the most complete special pleading ever made in the presence of sensible men. He knew well, with reference to the endowment of the Catholic Church in Ireland, that Dissenters could not sanction an extension of the principle of Establishments, however fair, or just, or politic it might be. He was aware that on the subject of education, the alter-

native was not crime, or the Minutes of Council. He knew that the power which transferred the wealth of the Catholic to the Protestant Church, had an equal right to apply it for the purpose of education. We leave Messrs. Cockburn and Wilcox, however, in the hands of the Nonconformists of Southampton, feeling assured they have some men amongst them who understand their principles, and will firmly and determinedly adhere to them. Their hour of trial is approaching; reproach and insult will be showered upon them, but they must do their duty notwithstanding. We are aware of the difficult circumstances in which they are placed; we know the amount of influence that will be brought to bear upon them, but it is for them to say, whether they will disgrace themselves by sacrificing their religious convictions to the advancement of local interest—whether they are prepared to stay the progress of great principles by selfish considerations.

MEETING OF DISSENTERS AT STIRLING.

(From a Correspondent.)

This important meeting was held on Tuesday evening, the 8th current, in the Independent Chapel, Murray-place, and was well attended. The object of the meeting was to form an Anti-state-church Association for Stirling and its neighbourhood, and to state the duty of Dissenters in the coming elections, and the position they should take in adopting all lawful means to obtain the separation of Church and State—and right well did the reverend gentlemen who advocated the cause and moved the resolutions execute the task assigned them. The slight interruption to the business caused by the appearance of the Rev. James J. Douglas, the assistant in the Established Church of the neighbouring parish of St. Ninian's, was a happy interlude to the evening's entertainment, and excited a good deal of merriment in some of the audience. So deeply riveted was the attention of the auditors, that the meeting, which was called at seven o'clock, did not conclude until near eleven, and all left, to appearance, highly gratified with the proceedings.

The business of the evening was opened by the Rev. THOMAS MUIR (Baptist) proposing Mr. David Yellowlees, (leather manufacturer), as Chairman of the meeting, which was unanimously agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN asked the Rev. Andrew Russell, Independent minister of the chapel, to engage in devotional exercises, when a psalm was sung and a prayer offered up which being concluded, the Chairman stated the object of the meeting, and called on

The Rev. WILLIAM SMITH (United Presbyterian), of Bannockburn, to move the first resolution, which was the formation of an Anti-state-church Society. After some introductory observations, which it is unnecessary here to state, he referred to the present position of Dissenters in England and Scotland, and the evils inflicted upon them by some of the late measures of Government, and alluded to obstacles to be overcome, and the means to be used for effecting the liberation of all religion from State control. He then noticed the opinions of the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel, the late Dr. Chalmers, and Mr. Guthrie, regarding state churches, and after making many pertinent remarks, concluded by openly avowing that Dissenters had no representative in the legislature but John Bright; and urged in forcible language the views which the *British Anti-state-church Association* had propounded regarding the duty of Dissenters in the ensuing election, which he said met his cordial approbation. Mr. Smith resumed his seat amid much cheering.

A person then rose in the body of the house, and claimed to be heard. Mr. STEEDMAN rose, and said that if Mr. Douglas wished to address the audience, he should come forward and do so from the platform; and Mr. FREW begged the indulgence of the meeting for his neighbour, Mr. Douglas, and hoped they would give him an impartial and candid hearing. The CHAIRMAN introduced Mr. Douglas as minister of the gospel at St. Ninian's, on the hearing of which the rev. gentleman said, I am not a “minister of the gospel,” but a “preacher of the gospel” [great laughter]. He began his speech by saying that to assume a new name was to deny Christ, and avowed that they who would not hear God's messengers renounced God, and after proceeding in the same strain for some time he pulled his Bible out of his pocket and quoted a passage from the prophet Isaiah to prove what he had said. He expected to hear from Mr. Smith some arguments against Establishments, but he had given none. It was nonsense to say that the Government of the country was the head of the nation. The Queen was the head [a voice, “The Queen is the head of the Church too”]. He admitted he was as great an Anti-state-churchman as any one [ironical cheers, which continued for some time], and after rambling over a great variety of topics in a most incoherent manner, without our being able to discover what he would be at, one of the audience rose and moved that the rev. gentleman be put upon time, and not waste the period allotted to the other speakers, which being formally seconded by another person in the body of the house, Mr. Douglas then asked for a quarter of an hour, which being granted, he went on, but apparently having exhausted all his powers in the delivery of the former part of his address, sat down before his time was out, without letting his hearers know what he wanted, or if he meant to propose any amendment.

The CHAIRMAN rose, and said that he was happy to hear the rev. gentleman say that he was so good an anti-state-churchman, and hoped he would allow his name to be put down as a member of their society, and expected a good subscription [immense cheering].

The Rev. ANDREW RUSSELL (Congregationalist), of

Stirling, followed, and seconded the first resolution, proposed by Mr. Smith, noticing the omission Mr. Douglas had made in proposing no amendment. He really did not know what the rev. gentleman, "the preacher of the Gospel," meant by his address, or what he would be at, for if he had waited until the second resolution was proposed, he would have found ample reasons stated against state-created or state-endowed churches. Mr. Douglas here attempted to propose an amendment, but was met with cries of "Chair, chair," "Order, order," "Too late," &c., and had to resume his seat. Mr. Russell proceeded, if Mr. Douglas could put any other any other interpretation upon this passage of Scripture, "Let him that is taught in the word communicate to him that teacheth in all good things," than what Voluntaries put upon it, and which sanctioned their principles and proved their practice, it puzzled him (Mr. Russell) how Mr. Douglas could make it appear. During the time Mr. Russell was replying several attempts were made by Mr. Douglas at interruption, evidently writhing under the pungency of the observations. But these were speedily silenced by the Rev. W. STEEDMAN, who interfered, and stated that courtesy and attention had been given to the rev. gentleman when making his speech, and he only asked the same for Mr. Russell—nay, he said, all such interruptions were not only out of order, but a real nuisance, and, if not given up, means would be adopted to get rid of him. The assistant "preacher of the Gospel" from St. Ninian's remained silent afterwards, and was not long in quitting the meeting. Mr. Russell, in a very lucid manner, continued his address and proceeded to state the object they had in view. It was no personal or party hostility they had to the Church, as a Church, or the State, as a State, but it was the unhallowed connexion subsisting between them. He wished the people of Establishments to support their own ministers, and all endowments to be withdrawn. The speaker next adverted to the conduct of the time-serving Wesleyans, as he designated that body, on the view they had taken of the educational question, and the indications given by the leaders of the Free Church party that they also would take the money, if they got it in their own way; and after glancing at several other topics, concluded by saying that I have now done with Whig and Tory politics. The indignities the Whig party had inflicted upon Dissenters, by the Scottish Prison Act, the late Maynooth grant, and the Minutes of Council on Education, and the probability of attempting to endow all classes of religionists in the country, had severed the last link of connexion between what is called the Liberal party and Dissenters [hear, hear]. I speak advisedly continued the rev. gentleman. Voluntaries have no hope from either party, and it now became them to form a party for themselves, and in the coming election to vote for no candidate who would not support their principles and pledge themselves to seek the dissolution of the connexion between Church and State. Rather remain silent and not vote at all than vote for one who did not fully support their views [great and continued applause].

The motion was then put from the chair, and unanimously agreed to.

Rev. JOHN EDMOND (United Presbyterian), of Denny-lodnhead, next addressed the meeting, and commenced by reading the second resolution, which was the adoption of the voluntary principle as the basis and the laws which should govern the society. He said that the various points to which Dissenters would require to turn their earnest and immediate attention was not work that required to be performed by men asleep, or as a holiday amusement, but as a real, right hand, firm, and determined struggle. For useful and practical purposes, lessons might be learned from the history of the Anti-corn-law League. In that scheme the hand of Providence wrought by Cobden, and in the still greater work before them, they had every reason to rely on the same divine aid. The speaker, after going over several leading points of the resolution with great force, went on to say that it was necessary that a deeper knowledge of the principles of Voluntaries should be diffused among the community than had hitherto prevailed, and that the late measures of Government for the extension of endowments called loudly on Dissenters to face boldly the discouragements they had to encounter: there was nothing to daunt them in their undertaking, but everything to encourage them, more particularly as the very men who sometimes ago scouted the idea of voluntaryism as visionary, were now proposing entire confidence in its reality and efficiency [cheers]. Mr. EDMOND proceeded to call on the electors to guard these privileges well at the coming elections, and when the crisis came to dedicate themselves to the cause of civil and religious liberty. (The rev. gentleman during his speech was frequently interrupted by cheers, and sat down amid great applause.)

The Rev. J. STUDMAN of Stirling (United Presbyterian), came forward and seconded the second resolution in a speech of great force and in excellent keeping with those previously delivered. He replied to the objections usually advanced against the voluntary principle, and alluding to the appearance of Mr. Douglass at the meeting, and his subsequent leaving, said:—

"He who fights and runs away,
May live to fight another day."

[applause.] He next adverted with point and tact to the duty of Dissenters voting for those individuals only who agree with their principles, though they might disagree in one minor point, rather than give their suffrage to a thick and thin follower of my Lord John Russell or Sir Robert Peel [immense cheering].

The Rev. ROBERT FREW (United Presbyterian) of St Ninians, proposed the third resolution, containing the

names of the office bearers for the first year. He touched on several particulars with great taste and extreme neatness and resumed his seat amid the cheers of the audience.

Mr. RUSSELL cordially seconded the resolution, which, being put, was unanimously agreed to. Mr. FREER moved the thanks of the meeting to the Chairman, and Mr. STEEDMAN to the managers of the chapel for kindly granting the use of it. The meeting was dismissed by the Rev. Mr. FREER pronouncing the benediction.

Since writing the above, Mr. Douglas, of St. Ninian's, has published a letter in one of the Stirling newspapers, in which he says, among other foolish things, "that no true Christian that can discern truth from error will assert that the Church of England is a state-church"—that voluntaries are "genteel highwaymen, who would be very happy to free the people of Scotland from the care and burden of their property;"—"he advises them to cease from speechifying, which is nothing, in general, but random talk, and come to a direct appeal to Scripture, reason, and facts;" and he challenges "the advocates of those earth-born Anti-state-church Associationists to hold an open meeting, and, if God permit, time and place convenient, he will not shun to meet them." "If," continues the E. C. P., "this reasonable request be refused, he will feel himself bound to warn people against them as irreligious and ignorant." Signed "James J. Douglas, E.C.P." This reverend priest of the Established Church of Scotland will require, as Dr. Ritchie of Edinburgh said of another of his kind, to "go to Jericho till his beard grow," before he will get any one to debate with him who can speak or write such *random talk*.

Another correspondent writes:—"I send you a copy of the *Stirling Observer*, from which you will learn that an Anti-state-church Association was formed here on Tuesday evening last. The leading individuals on this occasion are true men, honest in the cause, and will not only speechify and cheer, but they will vote at next election. The meeting which lasted upwards of three hours, was the most spirited and lively, and I trust, influential, that I have ever attended in Stirling. It was made so by an assistant minister in the neighbouring parish possessing more zeal than prudence, and offering some silly opposition to the object in view. I expect that John Benjamin Smith, of Manchester, will represent our burghs in Parliament next session. The said meeting has given a good lift to his election. He is a Unitarian, but I believe honest; at all events he is the best for us in the field. He opposes all endowments and will vote for the separation of Church and State. Mr. Bright recommended him to us and has been here with him and gave him a high character for integrity in an excellent speech he delivered on the present state of evils in this country, and the unwillingness of Whigs and Tories to rectify these wrongs. Mr. Smith has a good committee here, who are active and honest, and are sanguine as to the result. Five ministers spoke and all of them avowed they would vote for no man who would not advocate the separation of Church and State.

PORTSMOUTH.—At a large and crowded meeting of Dissenters opposed to all grants of public money for religious teaching in any form, held at the Athenaeum, Bishop-street, Portsea (in the borough of Portsmouth), Alderman Bilton in the chair, it was resolved, without one dissentient, that they would not support the present members of the borough (Baring and Staunton), nor any candidate who should present himself, unless he distinctly avowed himself opposed to all grants of public money for education or religion. There were one or two (not Dissenters) who got up in the meeting and put questions with a view to breed discord, but the feeling was strong and unanimous on the part of Dissenters present to withhold their votes from the present representatives. The borough is now being canvassed for Baring and Staunton, but the feeling is so strong against them that the committee and canvassers say it is hard work for them to get a promise. Should there be a Tory put up, it is supposed that he would come in easily, although the Dissenters do not think themselves strong enough to start a man. Two or three Dissenters, who were at one time influential (but not now, for they have entirely lost their influence from opposing the views of the other Dissenters), have given in their adhesion to the Whig members, but this has only made the body more active, and perhaps will do no harm to the cause. The meeting was adjourned, so that plans might be matured and brought forward at another meeting, so that the members may see that the Dissenters are really in earnest.—*From a Correspondent.*

THE DISSENTERS OF MONMOUTHSHIRE AND THE ELECTION.—The Dissenters are moving in this county. A meeting of the Pontypool Anti-state-church Committee was held last week, and it was unanimously resolved to summon a general conference of Dissenting electors at Pontypool on the 23rd instant, to take into consideration the position and duty of Nonconformists in reference to the approaching contest.—*From a Correspondent.*

OLDHAM.—The Nonconformist electors of this borough met on Tuesday last, and came to the following resolution:—

That we the undersigned electors of the borough of Oldham, will not support any candidate at the forthcoming election who will not pledge himself to vote against any further grants of public money for religious purposes.

Parties were appointed to canvass the borough to obtain the signatures of electors favourable to the principle embodied in the resolution. It is supposed that more than one fourth of the effective voters are favourable to our principles and that we shall be able to return one member at least who will advocate our views in the Commons

House of Parliament. Mr. Holliday, a townsman and a Dissenter is in the field, and if the Dissenters stand true to their principles there is no fear of his being carried to the head of the poll with a triumphant majority. John Fielding, of course, will come forward again, and his friends say that he voted against the late Education Grant. We think he voted for it, but are not sure. I find him in the majority against Duncombe's motion, and of course conclude he was with the majority when the vote was taken.—*From a Correspondent.*

GLoucester City Election.—The following is a copy of a handbill which has been extensively circulated, and a copy of which has been sent to every elector of the city:— "We, the undersigned electors of the city of Gloucester, hereby mutually resolve not to vote for any candidate for the representation of this city in Parliament, at the next ensuing general election, who is not opposed to the endowment or payment by the State, from any fund whatever, of any sect or denominations of Christians or others for the purposes of religious teaching, or for the building of churches or chapels either in Great Britain and Ireland, or in any of its colonies and dependencies." The preceding resolution is now in course of signature, and any elector who is desirous of bearing his testimony against State interference with religion, is requested to write his name and address on this paper and send it to either of the persons mentioned below, and his name will then be added to the general list of signatures. A public meeting on this subject at St. Mary's-square Chapel, at which Mr. E. Miall, editor of the *Nonconformist*, will attend, will be held next Friday evening, at seven o'clock." Mr. W. Higgs, Barton-street; Mr. James Hill, Westgate-street; Mr. Jos. Paul, Worcester-street; Mr. Thomas Wyles, Westgate-street; Mr. B. Wellings, Northgate-street; Mr. Jos. Hill, Westgate-street; Mr. W. Rees, Clarence-street; Messrs. Bird and March, Docks."

THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CONFERENCE AND STATE GRANTS.

In a powerful appeal to the Wesleyan Methodist electors of Great Britain, published in the *Patriot* of Monday, Dr. Campbell unfolds some startling facts relative to the collusion of the Conference with the government of Canada. We are sorry that our space will not permit of our copying the whole of the address in our present number, but the following extract will give an idea of the character of the address:—

"**FRIENDS AND FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN,**—Civil and religious liberty, so alarmingly circumscribed in all our colonies, from the conduct of your Conference, is, at present, exposed to special peril in Canada; but the spirit of the Nonconformist portion of the population seems equal to the solemn emergency. They have just established, at Toronto, a periodical, for the special purpose of their own defence, entitled '*The Nonconformist*', the first number of which is before us. The opening article of that journal shows that, for very many years, the Church party, through the Government, has been carefully carrying on a systematic struggle for the establishment of Episcopacy, and the result is thus stated:—

"In the year 1835, Sir John Colborne—a thorough slave of the high-Church faction—was recalled from the Government of Upper Canada; but prior to his departure, in the teeth of public sentiment and feeling, and with a degree of treachery disgraceful to the representative of the Crown—left the people of this country the sad inheritance of the Fifty-seven Rectories. Thus with violence were the broad and deep foundations of an Established Church then laid in the Colony; and, although it was followed with an almost universal burst of popular indignation, which burns in the bosoms of the people to this day, no attempt at redress has even been indicated.

"Sir Francis Bond Head succeeded Sir John Colborne in the government of the Province—but no real change of policy took place,—and the infusion of new elements into his Council, while he repudiated the exercise of their constitutional functions, created only a new and alarming cause of disquietude in the country. The Legislative Assembly remonstrated against his unconstitutional proceeding, and was instantly dissolved. Sir Francis threw himself into the arena of the political conflict which followed, and with the aid of THE UNITED METHODIST INFLUENCE, which had been previously SECURED BY EXECUTIVE GOLD, succeeded in defeating the friends of civil and religious liberty in the electoral contest. It was on this occasion that, with many others, the Honourable Marshall Spring Bidwell, the Speaker of the Legislature, one of the most eminent, worthy, and long-tried friends of religious liberty, and of Methodist rights in particular, was deserted by a peculiarly Methodist constituency!"

Here is another warning to the friends of freedom at home! The "Clergy Reserves," to be afterwards mentioned, signify portions of land comprising no less than one-seventh of the originally "granted lands" in Upper Canada, which was the quantity set apart by the British Act, 31st Geo. III. cap 31, for the support of "a Protestant clergy," without specifying what sect or sects was meant. The Episcopalians, however, have always said, "That means us;" the people, on the other hand, have said, "It means all Protestants," and have contended for its application to purposes of general education. Meantime the Government stepped forward a few years back, and sold one-fourth of these "Reserves," and put the proceeds into the military chest. Pity they did not sell the whole!

The settled determination of Canadian Churchmen seems to be to establish a branch of the Episcopal Church with the revenue of these lands; and hence to pave the way, they have been gradually preparing the public mind, and, at the same time, withering the arm of the popular power, by bribing the more influential bodies. "For some years past Government gratuities have been given, from public funds, to the Wesleyan Methodist Church and to the Scotch Kirk; the other Christian communities either refusing such gratuities, or not being offered any;" the consequence of which will be, that when the last tug of the war of principle comes, the voice of Methodism and of Scotch Presbytery will—must be silent! You are already, indeed, fairly committed by your mysteriarch Dr.

Alder, who, in his testimony before the Select Committee of the House of Commons, said, "If the Reserves be appropriated to the sole use of the Church of England, we shall offer no objection." Very generous, or very cunning! The logic amounts to this: "If the lands be appropriated solely to us, we shall offer no objection to the measure of final settlement;" for, in the course of his examination, as will afterwards appear, he contrived to place on record the following significant allegation: "I should wish to state, that we consider ourselves as a branch of the Church of England at home and abroad." What say you, what will your British brethren say to this? What do ye, the people, "consider" yourselves as being? Is it so, that hitherto there has been among you but little consideration at all on this subject? If so, is not the time arrived when it has become your solemn duty both to "consider" and to act? May not the time past suffice for culpable neglect of the high duties you owe to the community, and for self-degradation? Is it not now time to act as men, as freemen, as Englishmen, as men living in the nineteenth century? The new journal above-mentioned concludes another article on the same subject in the following terms:—

But the same principle is lamentably displayed in the case of all religious teachers who, directly or indirectly, become the pensioners of the State, and was never more clearly displayed than in the case of all the leading preachers among the Methodists in Canada. No sooner was the first union between the British Wesleyan Conference and the Canada Conference effected, and the gold of the Civil Government began to flow into the treasury of the latter, than its political character and bearing became immediately changed! From being "a noble vine, wholly a right seed," it became "the degenerate plant of a strange vine;" from being the stern opponent of the adulterous union of Church and State, it bowed with pusillanimous submission to the dictation of its new ally—the avowed upholder of a national ecclesiastical establishment!

"Are the friends of religious freedom in Canada, particularly the friends of religious liberty among the Methodists, prepared to entail upon themselves and their children after them for ages to come, the evils of a State Establishment of religion, a few only of whose bitter fruits we have enumerated above? If you are not prepared to become the slaves of an ecclesiastical hierarchy, resist—by every means in your power, resist—the annihilation of your liberty and independence as a people; for this is clearly determined by the articles of the proposed re-union between the two Conferences. Let the acknowledgment of Mr. Alder before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1828, as to the position occupied by the British Wesleyan Conference to the National Establishment, and as to the position which the Canada Conference by such a re-union must necessarily occupy, be engraven indelibly upon every mind, namely: 'I should wish to state, that we consider ourselves as a branch of the Church of England, both at home and abroad!' 'The British Wesleyan Connexion is accountable to the Government for the good behaviour of their Missionaries!!!'

"Methodist Reader! are you prepared to become part of the tail of the Beast? Are you willing to become the ally of your High-church Tory oppressors?"

CHURCH-RATES AT BRENTFORD.—On Thursday week the goods of Mr. John Cunningham, of Brentford, were seized for Church-rates, and are to be disposed of by auction, in the due course of law. Mr. C. has paid no church-rates for the last three years, and, as a consequence, his property has been periodically distrained upon. He has, on this occasion, published an address to his fellow-parishioners, stating the grounds of his refusal, and showing the hardship and injustice of these enactments.

ANTI-CHURCH-RATE AGITATION.—In accordance with a challenge advertised last week in this paper, Mr. J. Gibbs appeared on a platform (accompanied by a number of friends) erected on the market-hill, on Wednesday evening, to put three simple questions on the church-rate corruption, to all and sundry who choose to answer them. A large meeting congregated around the platform at half-past seven o'clock, which continued to increase during the proceedings. Mr. Adcock was called to the chair, and to exercise strict impartiality in giving every man a full hearing. He introduced the business by a few observations upon the absurdity of church-rate summonses, setting out with the statement that the rates were "justly due," and then called upon Mr. Gibbs to propound his questions. Mr. Gibbs stood forward and asked the three following questions *seriatim* two or three times:—

1. Ought not all unjust and oppressive laws to be repealed?

2. Does not the church-rate press unfairly and oppressively upon Dissenters?

3. What are the best means to be adopted for its repeal? No reply was made to any of them except by the approving responses of the assembly, which were long and loud. He then proceeded himself to comment upon the absurdity and injustice of church-rates, and suggesting as one remedy to cure the evil that the voters should look out for men who would endeavour to seek their abrogation. On resuming his seat, and no one seeming disposed to say anything in opposition, or accept the challenge, Mr. Hamilton rose and spoke at length for the purpose of suggesting another plan for the abrogation of this and a host of other political evils—namely, a well-guarded extension of the franchise; intelligence of mind and honesty of heart superseding the property qualification. He entered upon the question of taxation, and pointed out the deception and dishonesty which were practised upon the people, in order to show that the only hope of great and permanent changes was to be found in a people's franchise. These sentiments were unanimously reciprocated by the meeting; and after three cheers for the Queen, the meeting dispersed.—*Bucks Advertiser and Aylesbury News.*

DISSENTERS AND THE PROVINCIAL PRESS.—A Cheshire correspondent writes:—"I was glad to see an intimation that the suggestion as to the desirability of establishing local Nonconformist papers is under consideration. The more I think of this the more I am convinced of its importance, as well as of its practicability. I have sent two short articles to the local papers, professedly liberal, in favour of Dissenters and against the Government, in reference to education, within these few

weeks; but, though I am one of the best of its regular subscribers, they refused to publish them. One of them was in reply to a charge that Dissenters "had deserted their ancient principles," &c.; but this professedly liberal paper would not allow the groundless assertion to be contradicted in its columns. The Dissenters of Cheshire, as far as can be known of them through the local press, are dumb, or are only allowed to speak through false interpreters."

A new organ for the Scotch Dissenters will, it is expected, be commenced in September next.

THE FREE CHURCH ASSEMBLY finished its long list of business on Tuesday evening, and was dissolved by the Moderator; next to meet on the 18th of May 1848. Dr. Gordon has declined the principalship of the new college, vacant by the death of Dr. Chalmers, and the Free Church assembly have postponed any further arrangements in the matter till the meeting of the commission in August.

BIGOTRY OF THE ENDOWED SECT.—"A Cambrian on the banks of the Dyfi" writes as follows:—"In the north part of South Wales, a few weeks ago, it was hinted amongst a few individuals in a certain locality where the population is on the increase, and the want of proper English education very obvious, that it would be very desirable to form a school there on the British system. Accordingly a committee was formed to arrange matters for the purpose, and most liberal subscriptions were obtained. Then it was suggested where the building should be erected; a convenient site was pointed out, which belongs to a certain Lord, who is the owner of most of the land in the neighbourhood. Two respectable individuals were fixed upon to go and solicit his lordship for a grant of the site to build upon. His lordship's answer was, that if the vicar of the parish would co-operate, he would convey the ground applied for to the use of the school gratis, otherwise he could not comply with their wishes upon any terms. On their return they called upon the rev. gentleman, who immediately answered, and said 'that he would have nothing to do with it.' So up to this time a site cannot be obtained. A few years ago it was deemed necessary by the church party that chapel of ease should be built in that neighbourhood, and a handbill was circulated in order to solicit subscriptions towards erecting the same, in which it was inserted that the necessity for the chapel appeared by the success the Dissenting principles made there, and that 'all the people were gone quite schismatics!' So much for the united voice of the clergy and aristocracy against Dissent and in favour of the tythe temple."

EDUCATION MEETING.—On Friday evening last, a meeting of subscribers and friends to extending the means of education in the town of Ipswich, was held at the lecture-room of the Mechanics' Institution. Among the company we observed J. Head, J. Shewell, J. Smith (of the British and Foreign School Society), W. H. Alexander, A. Ransome, R. Ransome, W. May, and J. May, Esqrs.; Rev. W. Notcutt, Rev. J. Whitby, &c., &c. Mr. Robert Ransome occupied the chair. After some preliminary business was attended to, a resolution was passed, tendering very respectful thanks to R. D. Alexander, Esq., for the handsome offer of the Temperance-hall for the purpose of a school-room, but declining it. Mr. J. D. Everett, in a short speech, then brought forward the important question, "whether the society would, if it was deemed necessary, receive Government aid." Upon this followed a very animated debate, Messrs. J. Head, W. H. Alexander, George Alexander, Allen Ransome, Robert Ransome, William May, John May, and several others, being of opinion that, if the object could be effected entirely upon the voluntary principle, they should prefer it; but they had no objection to Government aid on behalf of a secular education, if it could be granted with fairness to all parties. Mr. Grimwade, Rev. J. Whitby, Mr. Goddard, and Mr. Neve, were the principal speakers on the other side, and warmly protested against receiving any assistance from Government. The following resolution was finally agreed to, there being only two or three hands held up against it:—

That the society proceed upon the voluntary principle, but, if two-thirds of subscribers of 5s. a year and upwards are agreeable to receive aid from the public treasury, the society do so."

The meeting did not separate until about a quarter past eleven.—*Ipswich Express.*

ELIHU BURRITT'S LEAGUE OF UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD.—FOOT'S CRAY, KENT.—In the British School in this place, on Thursday evening last, the 10th instant, several of the members and friends of the above Association had the pleasure of meeting that truly great and good man, Elihu Burritt, with the view of more fully uniting with him in carrying out his patriotic plans of popular progress. After singing two verses from the well-known hymn, "Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly dove," and the supplication of the Divine blessing by Mr. Featherstone, late of Woolwich, Mr. John Rogers, Secretary of the West Kent Sunday-School Union, was called upon to preside. Mr. Rogers, in a short but appropriate and energetic speech, introduced Mr. Burritt, who for upwards of an hour interested and delighted those present. The precepts, spirit, and example of Christ, and the principles of the Gospel as opposed to all war—the power of love—the advantages of a Sunday-School brotherhood between the teachers and scholars of this land and of America—the necessity of efforts for the abolition of all restrictions upon international correspondence and friendly intercourse, and the benefits of an ocean penny postage, were the principal subjects enunciated and enforced by the speaker. Some appropriate and beautiful illustrations were given; and at the close of Mr. Burritt's remarks a society was formed, to be designated, "The Cray's Branch of the League of Universal Brotherhood."

It is worthy of observation, that although this was not a public meeting, Sunday-school teachers and other friends to the cause of truth were present from Greenwich, Woolwich, Erith, Crayford, Paul's Cray, Saint Mary Cray, Eynsford, Foot's Cray, Orpington, Swanscombe, and Sittingbourne, thus forming (at least on a small scale) a complete bond of brotherhood.—*From a Correspondent.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT GRANT TO JUGGERNAUT'S TEMPLE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—Recent information from India states that vast multitudes attend the great Car Festival at Juggernaut, in Orissa, and that the British authorities still make an annual grant of 36,000 rupees to the Rajah and the priests;—a few extracts will shew the nature of this monstrous evil:—

The Rev. C. Lacey writes, "It is reported that the priests and the Khoorda Rajah have presented a numerously signed petition to Government to have the pilgrim tax continued; urging that, *If it be dropped and the support of the Government withheld, in a few years Juggernaut will lose his celebrity and glory.* This is undoubtedly true, but what is that to us? If the Hindoos wish his glory to continue, let them support and superintend his establishment accordingly. Mr. Greame recommended the regulation and supervision of the temple and worship of Juggernaut. In one part of his report which I have read, he says, '*The established worship is fast going down, and will soon become extinct if the Government does not renew and uphold it!*' He recommended to exclude certain low castes to raise the fame of its sanctity, &c., &c. These measures were in whole or part adopted. This report shews the state of the temple, before it had the protection of the British Government, and what it would soon become were it again left to itself."

In a more recent letter he states, "The very sinews of the system are supplied through the collector of Pooree by the British Government. Supported by this donation the idol appears in great glory. But the chief evil is the argument it furnishes against Christianity. The Pundahs say—'Who will deny that the enlightened and powerful Government of Great Britain does not respect Juggernaut, while it supports him so amply?' To facilitate pilgrimage a splendid road has been made, and now the pilgrim tax is abolished that no impediment may exist to the approach of devotees to the sacred shrine of the lord of the world! This is all done by Europe, and under the inspiration of Juggernaut!!! Such are the arguments of the Pundahs, and they are believed by the people."

The temple lands have been returned to the priests, but 36,000 rupees per annum are still paid. It appears important to petition Parliament, and likewise to memorialize Sir J. C. Hobhouse, President of the India Board, and the Court of Directors and Proprietors of the East India Company, that decisive measures may be adopted against all Government grants to Indian Temples. The memorials may be addressed to Sir John Hobhouse and J. Poynder, Esq., South Lambeth, London, who has a motion upon the subject for next court day, at the India House. "The King's business requires haste."—Petitions should be sent to both Houses of Parliament.

To the honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled. The Petition of the Congregation of _____ in the Town of _____

Sheweth

That your petitioners are intimately connected with the Missionary operations which have been prosecuted for a number of years in Bengal, Orissa, and in many parts of India. That the missionaries, in the prosecution of their benevolent labours, have frequently visited the great temple of Juggernaut, and witnessed scenes of misery, infamy, and death, which no pen can describe nor heart conceive, that has not been debased by the demoralising influence of idolatry.

Your petitioners, in common with multitudes in Britain and India, rejoiced in the anticipated severance of the British Government from the temple of Juggernaut, and by the repeal of the Pilgrim Tax and the restoration of the temple lands to the Rajah and the Priests, in accordance with the dispatch of the Honourable Court of Directors in December, 1844, stating in express terms, that "*The discontinuance of our interference in its concerns should be made complete.*" These expectations have been disappointed by the annual grant of 36,000 rupees from the British treasury, by which its popularity is increased, and multitudes are allure to this shrine of idolatry, at which so many perish.

Your petitioners therefore request, that decisive measures may be pressed upon the authorities of our Indian empire, that the temple of Juggernaut, and all the other temples of India may no longer receive grants of money from the British Government, but may be left entirely to the support of their own deluded votaries.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

I have been labouring to sever the State from the Church in Orissa for twenty-five years. The Church, indeed, is Juggernaut's cathedral, but the error in policy and Christian principle is the same as attends our Legislature in these days of excessive and prodigal legislation. I am very anxious that thirty or fifty petitions should be sent to Parliament against this anomalous and monstrous evil. My friend, J. Poynder, Esq., has a motion in the India House on the subject for 23d prox., and the expression of public opinion would do much in his favour. I think the directors are not now so much to blame as the authorities abroad. Pray lift up your sword and help to cut this Gordian knot by which scores of temples in India are united to the State, and are receiving annual grants in lieu of lands resumed by the Government. More of this another day.

Yours truly,

Burton-on-Trent, June 8.

J. PEGGS.

STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH-RATES AND THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

RESPECTED FRIEND,—I should be glad to be allowed to make a re-ask or two on the subject of parish contests for what are called church-rates; but, previous to doing so, I wish to be permitted just to allude to the communication in the last number of the *Nonconformist*, headed "Stoke Newington Church-rates and the Society of Friends."

In the Society of Friends each individual acts upon his own responsibility, and no member, or number of members, has any power to enter into compacts for his fellow-members.

In that letter, among other things, we are informed that Edward Harris went from town on purpose to vote against the rate, because he had heard it reported that a compact had been made between the churchwardens and some Friends. He was one of the four or five influential individuals alluded to as having been called upon by the churchwardens. It seems, therefore, very evident that he did not consider any compact had been made. I feel quite sure that no compromise of principle was for a moment intended by any one of them, and I think every man is at liberty not to vote at all in these contests, if he thinks proper. In Stoke Newington, for many years past, these rates have been annually contested, and the established sect has always carried them by a very large majority.

Since it has been declared legal for a minority to lay a rate where a majority refuses to do it, it has appeared to me absurd to contest these minor matters in the vestry any longer; and, some time previous to the contest just concluded, I had decided never to vote again, but of course to continue to bear faithful and practical testimony against the system, by refusing to pay any of its demands. I now find that a number of other Friends in Stoke Newington had come to a like judgment upon similar grounds.

It is, or ought to be, pretty well known that our leading politicians of both parties have looked for years past upon these rates as very useful in serving to amuse the Dissenters and carry off surplus excitement—a sort of valve for the escape of that power which otherwise might be directed against the Establishment itself.

Surely the time has arrived when, instead of wasting our strength upon the branches, we should unite to lay the axe to the root of the tree—the false and pernicious notion that the civil power has a right to legislate in matters of religion.

Since the introduction and spread of Tractarianism, it appears to me to have become peculiarly true that the Establishment in this country forms a "sensible eclipse between man and his Maker;" and it more evidently shows itself to be part of that "mystery of iniquity" which "makes merchandise of the souls of men."

I am, with sincere respect,
City, 12th of 6th mo., 1847. A FRIEND.

A FREE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—I have been anxiously looking over your pages for some time past to learn what the friends of Free Education intend to do. We are not in the dark now as respects the intentions of the British and Foreign School Society; a large majority of the subscribers to that Institution have resolved upon continuing to receive State aid. I ask then, Is not the time now come to establish a *Free Educational Society*?—a society not denominational, but one formed upon broad and Liberal principles, such as will admit of the union of all the true friends of Voluntary Education. If some influential friends would undertake to form such a Society, I believe they would soon receive the zealous co-operation of many who are now waiting for some to take the lead in this matter.

That such a Society should be formed appears to me desirable upon various grounds. If we do not adopt some such course, what will be thought of our recent opposition to the Government scheme? Again, I would ask, To whom are those masters to look, who, true to their avowed voluntary principle, spurn the State bribe, and are prepared to suffer in their income rather than violate their consciences? They want some rallying point. I am happy to say, from personal knowledge, that there are many masters who have not bowed the knee to this golden image.

Our voluntary schools too, will, some of them, soon require to be supplied with masters. From whence are those masters to be obtained? Shall we go to the Borough-road for them? If we obtain them from thence, we must expect to have them entertaining very "calm thoughts" upon the subject of State aid?

Again! School apparatus will be needed. Must we go to the Borough-road for this? We need not so to do. I believe I can say that publications quite as good and quite as cheap may be purchased elsewhere.

Then why delay? Why should the commencement of such a Society be postponed? Why should the enthusiasm against State interference be suffered to subside without doing something which may prove an effectual antagonist to State Education?

Trusting that you, sir, will be kind enough to find a place in your paper for these remarks, and that they may meet the eye of some who are fitted and inclined to move in this matter, and who will be at once induced to do so,

I remain, Dear Sir,
Yours with much esteem,
A CONSTANT READER.

MARRIAGE OF MR. JOHN BRIGHT, M.P.—Thursday morning being the weekly meeting of the Friends at their meeting-house, George-street, Wakefield, was fixed upon as the day upon which Mr. Bright's marriage with Miss Leatham should be solemnized, according to the usual form of that body. For half an hour previously to the time appointed (half-past ten), the chapel began to be filled by a numerous and respectable portion of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood. Amongst the company present, most of whom were of the fair sex, we (*Wakefield Journal*) observed a great number of Mr. Bright's political friends. Within a few minutes of half-past ten the wedding party arrived, and immediately took the seats apportioned to them. The whole company sat for about three quarters of an hour in perfect silence, when Mr. Bright arose, and taking the right hand of Miss Leatham, pronounced in a low but distinct voice the following words:—"Friends, I take my friend, Margaret Elizabeth Leatham, to be my wife, and promise, by Divine assistance, to be unto her a loving and faithful husband until it shall please God to part us by death." The lady made a similar declaration.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—Dr. King has addressed a letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, volunteering to go out for the relief of Sir John Franklin's exploring party in Arctic America. Dr. King was the medical officer of an expedition in search of Sir John Ross, in 1833-4, and for some time commanded that expedition. Dr. King's plan differs from that of Sir J. Richardson, which has already been set on foot. Sir John proposed to send out provisions for the party, which numbered 126 men; but Dr. King maintains that such an attempt must fail, from the impracticable nature of the region to be traversed with such a burden. He proposes that provisions should be sent out to the western corner of North Somerset, where the party are likely to be found; that food should also be placed in various depots; and that he should convey intelligence of the stores to the lost party, with Indians as guides.

FOOD RIOTS were renewed at Redruth on Wednesday, the miners and their wives assembling 7,000 strong, and acting with much violence. A detachment of fusiliers and artillery, with two field pieces, was sent from Devonport, and order was restored. Many of the local authorities were very roughly handled. A disposition to food-rioting showed itself last week in Somersetshire and in Cornwall. It has been checked by the fall in prices. One curious effect is recorded: owing to the stoppage of the bakers' operations at Wells, people with money in their pockets could not get bread, and all were fain to eat their loaves hot.

THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

On Wednesday Sir CHARLES Wood moved a series of resolutions, recommended by the Select Committee on Railways, for the adoption of the House. They were discussed at length and with some minuteness; some slight verbal alterations were introduced; attempts at resistance were made at one or two parts; but the resolutions were adopted without any material alteration. We subjoin the substance in an abridged form.

Promoters of all bills are empowered, under conditions, either on the second reading or on the completion of any subsequent stage, to suspend all further proceedings, with liberty to resume next session at the point of suspension.

Promoters of bills who intend to suspend proceedings are to give notice of their intention at the Private Bill-office by the 18th June, or (if the bill be in committee) within six days of the Committee's report.

Promoters intending to petition for the re-introduction of their bills must give notice, by advertisement for three successive weeks during October and November, in the London, Edinburgh, and Dublin *Gazettes*, or in the newspapers of the counties through which the lines are to pass.

Petitions presented during the session of 1848 will be referred to the examiner [or committee, if the bill were reported], who will ascertain the identity of the measures and of the promoters, the validity of the subscription contract, and the lodgment of the deposit of ten per cent.

In respect of all petitions thus examined and found correct, the standing orders are to be held to have been complied with.

The time between the second reading and the committee is altered to three days; regular notice to be given at the Private Bill-office.

The deposits are to be returned in the mean time to the depositors, but must be paid in again on renewal of the bill.

A clause is to be henceforward inserted in every railway bill prohibiting the payment of any interest or dividend in respect of calls (except in cases of certain prepaid subscriptions under the 8 Vic. cap. 16) out of the capital.

In all cases of application from existing railway companies for power to construct branches, or to contribute towards the construction of other railways, a subscription contract for two-thirds of the additional capital must be given in, and the deposits duly paid.

A clause is to be inserted in all railway bills prohibiting companies from paying out of the capital raised under existing acts the deposits for any new schemes.

Railway companies are to be prohibited from exercising powers of purchase, sale, lease, or amalgamation, until after proof to the Railway Commissioners that a sum has been expended equal to one-half of their capital.

No railway acts, in future sessions, shall contain powers of purchase, sale, lease, or amalgamation.

No railway company is to be allowed to guarantee interest on shares issued for the creation of additional capital, or to guarantee any rent or dividend to any other railway company, until the first-mentioned company shall have completed or opened its line.

The united capital of railway companies amalgamating is in no case to exceed the sum of the capitals of the amalgamated companies.

Railway companies empowered to purchase other railways shall not be allowed to increase the capital beyond the amount of the capital of the purchased railways; and where a premium is given, no addition on account of it is to be made to the capital of the purchasing company.

PENAL DISCIPLINE: TRANSPORTATION.

On Thursday, the House of Commons resumed the adjourned debate on the Prisons Bill and the Custody of Offenders Bill; the real subject of discussion, it will be remembered, being the system proposed by Government in lieu of transportation. The speakers in favour of the measure were Mr. MONCKTON MILNES, Mr. C. BULLER, and Lord JOHN RUSSELL; against it, Mr. NEWDEGATE, Mr. MILES, Sir R. INGLIS, Sir J. GRAHAM, and Sir F. THESIGER. None of the arguments advanced on either side possessed novelty; those which were used with most effect being well represented in the speeches of Sir James Graham and Mr. Charles Buller.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM brought forward a formidable array of objections. He objected to the Custody of Offenders Bill; especially to the first clause, which gives to the Crown a power of bringing Irish convicts to England, and of detaining Irishmen sentenced to transportation in this country for solitary confinement: a measure of very doubtful policy. He objected to the Prisons Bill. It establishes a "Board of Commissioners of National Prisons,"—"National Prisons" being a name unknown to the country. The bill transfers the whole responsibility and patronage of the Secretary of State to the Commissioners. He admitted that when he resigned office, last summer, the state of the Penal Colonies was so unsatisfactory that it had become necessary to suspend transportation for some time, in consequence of the great accumulation of convicts in those settlements during the five years that he had been in office. He imputed this greatly to the hasty if not imprudent pledge given by his predecessors to the colony of New South Wales, that no more convicts should be sent there. This threw the entire stream on Van Diemen's Land. Sir James was willing to sanction the suspension of transportation for a year or two, until a better plan of secondary punishment could be devised. The question now is, whether transportation as a secondary punishment is to cease or not. He reviewed the actual state of the administration of the criminal law. It is the policy of modern times to mitigate "the sanguinary character of the law"—that which disgraces without adding to its efficiency. Capital punishment has been remitted in most cases; and it is not to be denied that crimes for which that punishment has been remitted have increased. Transportation, by the present measure, is to cease, at least in the rigorous sense of the term: the punishment of the hulks has been condemned, and is no longer resorted to: objections have been made to the Separate system; and then they fell back upon the Silent system, which was condemned also: and so it went on, until at last it appears that great offenders are to be visited with long periods of imprisonment. This he strongly objected to, because in course of time the pressure on the Executive for the remission of sentences would be very great, and perhaps many rogues would be permitted to escape with comparative impunity. Sir James made other more specific objections to the plan. The system of deportation with tickets of leave will require the whole

machinery in the way of establishments needed by transportation. The casting back on society at home has proved most dangerous in France; while the reformatory system is both safe and practicable in the Colonies. He should be willing to go into committee on the two bills, which were of minor importance, if he were assured that, during the recess, Government would take an extended view of the whole difficulties of the question, embody their own plan in a bill, and lay it regularly before Parliament; the prerogative of the Crown meanwhile to be exerted only in mitigation of fixed punishments.

MR. CHARLES BULLER defended the measure, and replied to several points in Sir James Graham's speech; observing, however, that none of the speakers who had criticised the measure had condescended to suggest a better course. The continuance of transportation had become impossible. New South Wales, South Australia, and New Zealand, had extracted pledges that they should not be subjected to it; Sir James Graham himself consented to suspend transportation to Van Diemen's Land; and there remains in fact no colony (for Bermuda is not worth mention) available for transportation. The difference between the present Government and Sir James Graham is, that Government would inflict the coercive punishment in this country with the penalty of transportation afterwards; Sir James would banish the prisoner in the first place, and inflict the penalty in the colonies. Now, every mode of inflicting the penalty in the colonies has failed. No one proposes the restoration of the best of those modes, the assignment system, since it broke down through its own inherent vices: it had lost its terrors even for the labouring classes in this country, being, in fact, a premium on crime. The opposite system of penal settlements resulted in scenes horribly disgraceful to the English name. As to the opinion of the judges, it is to be remembered that if the House had always been guided by the opinion of the judges, the criminal code would not be so perfect as it is. But, in fact, their opinion has not been expressed on the whole subject. As to the abuses of the French galley system, they are admitted; but the whole police system of France is the worst in any civilized country. It is said that the Government have acted precipitately, the change has been forced upon them. It is not they who have made the sentence of transportation uncertain. Ten years ago, a man who was sentenced to transportation remained on board the hulks. Mr. Buller, however, gave the pledge required by Sir James Graham, and stated that next session Ministers would bring forward a bill upon the subject, on which Parliament could minutely and deliberately decide.

The House divided; and the motion for going into Committee was carried, by 124 to 76.

BISHOPRIC OF MANCHESTER.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the Marquis of LANSDOWNE moved the second reading of the Bishopric of Manchester Bill. It had been thought desirable to leave the two bishoprics of St. Asaph and Bangor as they originally were; and in consequence of regulations adopted by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, such a surplus of income has accumulated as to afford independent means of creating the bishopric of Manchester. A second question arises, respecting the seat of the bishop in the House of Lords. It was not held to be desirable to increase the number of Lords Spiritual; and it was therefore proposed that the bishop should succeed to the vacant seats in the House according to seniority. There would, however, be exceptions: the more important bishoprics would be permanently represented—namely, the archbishoprics of Canterbury and York, the bishoprics of London, Durham, and Winchester. The population of the new see would be 1,123,000; the income for the bishop, £4,200.

A short discussion arose, less upon the immediate object of the bill than upon other points. Lord MONTAGUE and some other peers regretted that provision had not been made for increasing the emoluments of the clergy of North Wales. Lord STANLEY foresaw that it would be necessary to have a much larger number of bishops—he firmly believed that the Church would require an increase of twenty-four: with so large a number, each bishop would have little prospect of succeeding to a seat in the House until he had attained a considerable age; and it would be very undesirable to have so large a proportion of the bishops permanently excluded from the House. As a better course, he suggested a return to the unpealed law which sanctions the appointment of suffragan bishops. That would supply the means for episcopal supervision, and yet avoid the question of seats in the House.

Lord BROUHAM reserved to himself the right of amending the clause by which the new bishop was to be excluded. The bill was read a second time.

INTERVENTION IN PORTUGAL.

On Friday, Mr. HUME brought forward his resolution relating to the intervention in Portugal, which was to the following effect:—

That, in the judgment of this House, the armed interference of the Government between political parties in Portugal, is unwarrantable in principle, and likely to lead to serious and mischievous consequences.

England, the hon. member remarked, owed her liberty to the struggles between the people and the Sovereign; and if foreign nations had interfered as we had done in Portugal, the liberties we possess would never have been secured. After referring to the conduct and declarations of Mr. Canning in 1826, to show that that statesman unequivocally condemned all interference in the international regulations of foreign countries, and to the similar declarations of the late Earl Grey, Mr. Hume proceeded to express his opinion that some overwhelming influence must have been brought to bear upon Her Majesty's Government. On looking over the Blue Book, till he came to the 5th of April, there was not one of Lord Palmerston's despatches in which he was not prepared to concur. Up to that date the noble Secretary repudiated all interference. "Evil advisers have been about the Cabinet," said the hon. member; "a change has taken place; and on that account it is a matter of the more importance that we should arrive at the truth." The alleged alarm

about Don Miguel was a mere pretext; and no one knew that better than Lord Palmerston. Mr. Hume proceeded to adduce several instances in which the Portuguese Charter had been violated. It was for the violation of that Charter that the people of Portugal were in arms; and had they not taken means for resisting the arbitrary measures of the Government, they would have deserved to be despised and hooted by the civilized world. There have been arrests, imprisonments, dismissals, and transportation without the semblance of law, on the mere word and simple will of the Minister. No form of justice had been observed; the Queen had declared herself dictator, and put an end to every court and tribunal of the country. Earl Grey had, in 1830, justified the expulsion of Charles X. by the French for acts not one-twentieth so bad as those committed by the Queen of Portugal. Surely, if infatuation ever possessed any man, that man was Louis Philippe, who, owing his crown to such circumstances, could be a party to an armed interference in Portugal. The honourable member proceeded to show, by extracts from the despatches, that interference on the part of the Spanish authorities had contributed to produce great irritation among the Portuguese. Istritz was referred to as "the gentleman who, having done all the mischief he could at Madrid, had come over here to do as much more." Our interference had established a precedent which might lead to most fatal results. This, said the honourable member, was no party question, but a national one; and he trusted he would be supported by all who were opposed to despotism. The honourable member's speech was loudly cheered throughout.

Mr. B. OSBORNE having simply seconded the resolution, Lord H. VANE rose, and commenced by admitting that a *prima facie* case had been made out in favour of non-interference; but he contended that the danger of anarchy in Portugal, the danger of a Spanish invasion and of French interference, were special circumstances which sufficiently absolved the Ministers; and he would therefore give his decided opposition to the resolution. A pause of several minutes occurred when the noble lord sat down. After repeated calls for Lord Palmerston, and cries of "Question," "Order," and "Divide," Mr. B. Escott remarked, that strangers were in the gallery. A curious scene of commotion and astonishment ensued. Strangers were ordered to withdraw; but, before the order could be complied with, Mr. MONCKTON MILNES had risen to address the House. He maintained, that the interference had been rendered necessary; and that it would tend, in a great degree, to establish constitutional liberty in Portugal; that, if England had not interfered, it was extremely probable the Queen would have been driven from her capital; and that it was important that the example of successful insurrection should not be set before the eyes of the Spanish people! He rejoiced, therefore, in the step that had been taken. The hon. member's speech was, in fact, an elaborate apology for the worst principles under the mask of a regard for constitutional liberty. Lord W. POWLETT briefly expressed his opinion, that there had been no ground for armed interference, and he must with regret withhold his support from Government. Mr. WARBURTON thought the interference unjustifiable, but was not disposed to see the present Ministry displaced by a vote condemnatory of their conduct! Mr. H. BAILIE supported the resolution.

Another pause then took place, and calls were renewed for Lord Palmerston, but the noble lord remained fixed to his seat. Mr. B. Escott then rose and delivered a smart and telling speech. He commenced by saying, he had been awaiting with some anxiety an official explanation from some member of the Government; but the hon. member for Pontefract had, in his own person, exemplified the usefulness of intervention in the cause of the Government; for, had not that gentleman made his appearance at the red box at a very critical period of the evening, the House would have gone to a division, and Ministers would have been left in a woful minority. He proceeded to ridicule Mr. Milnes's somewhat poetical defence of the policy of intervention. The hon. gentleman had said, that young countries required schooling in constitutional government. If the schooling he referred to consisted in the abolition of trial by jury, and in the Crown's trampling on the rights of the people, and this was to be the defence of the noble Secretary for Foreign Affairs, the sooner the Cabinet quitted the seats they had shown such a pertinacious intention to adhere to that night, the better for the country [hear, and laughter]. He admitted most readily the noble lord's good intentions; but his own Blue Book proved him to be nothing more than a child in the leading-strings of Cabral and Louis Philippe. It was clear that Colonel Wyld was only a partisan instead of a mediator. He called upon Sir Robert Peel to support, by his vote in 1848, the opinion against interference which he had expressed in 1829.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL then rose and addressed the House for several hours, endeavouring to establish that it had been necessary to interfere, first, for the welfare of Portugal; secondly, for the interests of this country; and thirdly for the purpose of averting the danger of a European war. The Minister of France, the noble lord said, had declared, not long ago, that he thought it was a case to which the terms of the Quadruple Alliance were applicable; that he thought England should interfere; and he thought Spain should interfere. What would have been the consequence, if Spain, with the aid of France, had established a supremacy in Portugal? "I should be sorry, indeed," said the noble lord, "to belong to a Government, which, having been called upon by the Government of Portugal to interfere, and having it in its own power to dictate the terms of that interference, should shrink from giving its assistance, and should thereby for ever become disconnected with the Government of Portugal." The noble lord referred to the armed intervention which took place in the Netherlands in 1786, and which had the united approbation of Pitt and Fox, as a precedent for the present armed interference in Portugal, and insisted that the point of the invectives directed against the Government fell to the ground, when it was seen that, far from seeking to

establish a despotism, they had only desired the execution of the constitutional charter of Don Pedro. The capture of Das Antas and his troops, which had taken place, would lead to the acceptance by the Junta of the proposed terms, and thus the peace and liberties of Portugal would be restored. The noble lord, in conclusion, asserted that we had frequently interfered in establishing limited monarchies with representative assemblies, and that we had called for foreign interference ourselves at the revolution of 1688, and at the establishment of the house of Hanover on the throne.

On the motion of Mr. BORTHWICK, the debate was then adjourned.

On Monday night Mr. BORTHWICK commenced the adjourned debate, and in a speech of three hours' duration, inveighed against the mischievous policy of the Government. He contended that on the precedent established by Mr. Canning, in 1826, Ministers ought to have asked the sanction of Parliament before they interfered with force of arms in the affairs of Portugal. The time was now gone by when the interference of the House could be exercised with any good practical effect; and the interference which the Government itself had made was not for the benefit of the people or of the crown of Portugal, but of the basest and most despicable faction which had ever swayed the destinies of a nation. By our ill-timed intervention we had sacrificed the liberties of Portugal to a faction which had reacted in Lisbon all the fabled horrors of our own Star Chamber; and the result of it, after the destruction of our ancient alliance with that country, would be either the erection of a republic in Portugal or the absorption of Portugal into the kingdom of Spain.

Mr. CHRISTIE thought that her Majesty's Government had made out a valid and satisfactory defence for their recent policy. It might be that disturbances might break out again in Spain, as M. Guizot predicted; but even if they did so, Lord Palmerston would have the satisfaction of knowing that he had taken the best precautions for the continuance of Portuguese liberty, and that he deserved, if he did not obtain, success.

Lord J. MANNERS, after expressing his intention to support the motion of Mr. Hume, proceeded to declare his deliberate conviction, that Lord John Russell had failed to substantiate any of the propositions which he had advanced on Friday evening. He had not proved that our interference was required by the interests either of Portugal or of England, or that it was necessary to prevent the recurrence of an European war. Our former interventions in Portugal had produced no other results than a ruined peasantry, an alienated and exasperated nobility, a bankrupt exchequer, a perjured administration, and a languishing condition of commerce and agriculture; and he predicted that our present intervention, by giving a new lease of power and wrong-doing to the present Government of Portugal, would not be productive of more fortunate consequences. He contrasted the remarkable moderation of the Junta, which had never displayed the slightest hostility to the personal safety or the dynastic rule of Donna Maria, with the violent and arbitrary conduct of the supporters of the present tyrannical Administration, and lamented that we should have combined with those who were anxious to fetter the choice and control the independence of the Portuguese nation. If intervention were necessary, as Ministers contended, why had they not interfered at an earlier period after the first successes of the Queen's troops, when the cruelties inflicted on the prisoners of Torres Vedras had not been perpetrated, and when the atrocities which the peasantry of Portugal had since endured were still uncommitted? He thought that the amendment of which Mr. T. Duncombe had given notice that evening was well worthy the attention of the House. He concurred with Mr. T. Duncombe in declaring, that as we had interfered thus far in the affairs of Portugal, we were bound to interfere still further, by obtaining a pledge from the House that it would preserve the rights and privileges of the Portuguese people, and a pledge from the Queen, that she would rule in future according to the constitution, and would abstain from all severity against those who had been captured in arms against her. But no; Lord J. Russell had already repudiated that amendment by anticipation, for he had told the House that the people of Portugal must rely on the faith of their Queen, and on nothing else. Such being the case, there was no probability that the terms which we had laid down would be adhered to. Oaths would be violated, as oaths had been violated before; and these insurgents would again be the objects of persecution and oppression. Other insurrections would again take place, and that would lead to other interventions on our part, as unwarrantable and mischievous as the present, but still more likely to increase and complicate the difficulties of Europe.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE, in rising to move the amendment to which Lord J. Manners had referred, expressed his surprise that he had not heard at an earlier period of the session from the Protectionists opposite the same love of constitutional freedom which they had expressed that evening. He thought that he had heard some of them declaring that public thanks ought to be offered to the Emperor of Russia, the Emperor of Austria, and the King of Prussia for interfering in the affairs of Cracow, and for extirpating the liberty and independence of that independent republic. On remembering these things, he could not help thinking that there was something more than met the eye in the opposition which the Protectionists were now giving to the policy to her Majesty's Government. He thought that as the Protectionists were, one and all, gentlemen of great consistency, they were now, as previously, standing up in the cause of absolutism, and that they were attacking this intervention because they saw that the course adopted by Ministers in the Peninsula was hostile to the cause of despotism. He admitted that after reading the papers in the Blue Book, he had come to a very different conclusion from that which he had originally entertained upon this intervention. He saw that throughout all these negotiations the British Government had shown a constant determination to protect the rights of those who were in arms against the Portuguese Government. The British Government had had a very difficult card to play, and, in playing it, had been abused pretty roundly

by both parties—by the Queen's party in Portugal, and by the Protectionists in England, who, for some cause or other, had taken up the cause of the Junta of Oporto. He thought that the Government had played its card well, and that the result of its intervention would not be dangerous or mischievous to the liberties of Portugal. In consequence of it, the Junta had laid down their arms, or rather we had wrested them from their hands. Having gone thus far, we must go still further. The Portuguese people had no confidence in their own Government, but it would have confidence in a strong expression of feeling and opinion by the English House of Commons. Such an expression was due to a people which had risen in defence of its rights and privileges. It would strengthen the hands of her Majesty's Government, and would enable them to carry out that intervention in Portugal for which he thought that they deserved the applause and gratitude of every civilized nation in Europe. He then concluded by moving his amendment.

Mr. MACAULAY had heard with great pleasure the amendment just proposed by Mr. T. Duncombe. In that amendment he had set forth the principle which had guided, and would continue to guide, the conduct of her Majesty's Government. Her Majesty's Government felt that when it was compelled to depart from the principle of intervention, it contracted a great responsibility towards that nation in whose affairs it interfered, and that it was bound in the performance of its duty to protect the rights and liberties of the inhabitants of that nation. He had heard with pleasure that Mr. T. Duncombe, and no doubt other gentlemen had seen cause to alter the opinion which they had originally entertained respecting this intervention. In making an interference the British Government had only a choice of evils, and it had chosen the least. Other nations were inclined to interfere in the affairs of that country; and thus no course but one of risk and inconvenience was left to the British Government. Every one who felt inclined to censure the conduct of Ministers should lay before the House not only his view of the difficulties by which they were surrounded, but also his view of the plan of policy by which they were to be avoided. No such plan had yet been devised, and he did not expect that it would be laid before the House in the course of the present debate. He then proceeded to defend our recent interference on the peculiar position in which England and Portugal were placed to each other by an unbroken alliance of 500 years. Now, for the last 10 months Portugal had been the theatre of a most cruel civil war. The cause of it was, undoubtedly, the misgovernment of the Queen. During the continuance of that war we were engaged, on the one hand, imploring the Court to be lenient, and, on the other, in advising the Junta of Oporto to follow the counsels of moderation. It was admitted in every quarter that during the early part of the negotiations the principles of non-intervention had never been more clearly expounded than in the despatches of the British Ministers; but it was stated that in spite of those despatches a change took place after a certain time in our policy, and an intervention was made. Now, the cause of that change was this: so long as it was an internal question between the Junta and the Queen, the British Government refused to interfere; but as soon as it became an international question, in which Spain and France and Portugal were concerned, the situation of affairs became so altered that it was impossible for us to refuse to interfere. He then entered into a long and able argument to prove that, connected as we were, and long had been, with Portugal, it was utterly impossible for us to observe the ordinary rule of non-interference from the moment in which France and Spain began to interfere in her affairs; that if we had not interfered when those two powers did, we should have reduced England to the lowest point in the scale of nations; and that if, determining ourselves not to interfere, we had said to them, "You shall not interfere either," we should have plunged Europe into a general war without any sufficient justification. The British Government had in consequence adopted that mode of interference which now formed the subject of debate, and by that course had secured the dignity of England, the liberty of Portugal, and the peace of Europe. He repeated that our interference imposed upon us the duty of protecting the rights and privileges, the lives and liberties of the Portuguese people, and that duty the British Government was prepared to perform. It had been said there was no guarantee that the Queen of Portugal would perform the engagements into which we had entered on her behalf. He wondered how any man could venture upon such an assertion with the fact before his eyes, that the convention made between England, France, and Spain was a sufficient guarantee that if the Queen of Portugal was unwilling to keep the terms which she had granted to her subjects she would be compelled to do so. He then concluded his speech by showing that if our interference was justifiable in point of principle, there was nothing reprehensible in the mode of carrying it into execution. Notice fuller and fairer never was given to man than that which was given by Captain Robb to the Junta of Oporto of the intention of Sir. W. Parker to capture their fleet if it sailed from Oporto on any military expedition.

Lord G. BENTINCK was sure that every member of the Cabinet would be delighted to find that Mr. T. Duncombe, who had been pleased to refer with extraordinary courtesy to his friends on the Protection benches, had left it beyond all doubt that, though he had the love of liberty on his lips, he had that of despotism in his heart, by coming to their rescue from a vote of censure for their interference in Portugal, when it was admitted that the interests of the Queen of Portugal had become quite desperate. He then entered into a laboured reply to the speech of Lord J. Russell on Friday evening, and denied with great emphasis his lordship's declaration that the interference of the British Government was not in the cause of despotism in Portugal. He also took a long and desultory review of the various diplomatic despatches contained in the Blue Book, condemning in the strongest terms the course pursued by our negotiators, and declaring that our policy had broken the heart of freedom in Portugal, and had inflicted the severest blow that had ever been

struck at the liberties of Europe. That policy would involve us in future difficulties, which it would be almost impossible to overcome. After what we had done to support the Queen of Portugal in the terrible oppressions which she had exercised over her subjects, we could never say to any other power, " You shall not interfere in the internal concerns of another state." He concluded by giving his cordial support to the motion of Mr. Hume.

The debate was then again adjourned.

THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL ON EDUCATION.

In the House of Lords on Friday, the Bishop of EXETER brought forward his resolution, affirming that persons in holy orders, not exercising ecclesiastical functions, ought not, as such, to be ineligible to the office of schoolmaster in schools receiving Government aid.

The Marquess of LANSDOWNE resisted the idea, that a fund provided for one object can be rendered subservient to another. Parliament is entitled to require that the grant should be confined to education purposes. The object was to create an order of schoolmasters; and the Bishop of Exeter wished to use the money for creating an order of clergy. The people of England are satisfied that an equitable, fair, and impartial distribution of the grant was intended; and therefore Ministers could submit to the mortification of not having satisfied the Bishop of Exeter. Strange to say, all the deputations which had waited upon Ministers, when assured that the grant would not be diverted from its legitimate purpose, uniformly said, " This may be very true; but the Bishop of Exeter will contrive to do so and so." Strange also, that when the aid was given to the schools, not one ordained person in a thousand became schoolmaster; but now that the stipend is given to the schoolmasters, the Bishop of Exeter wishes to make them deacons! Whatever the result of the motion, it would not in the slightest degree impede her Majesty's Privy Council in administering the grant according to the way originally proposed.

Lord STANLEY made a speech in support of the motion, and finished by advising the Bishop to withdraw it.

The motion was accordingly withdrawn; not, however, before the ministerial view had received support from the Bishop of Norwich and the Earl of Chichester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE POST-OFFICE.—In the House of Lords, on Monday, on the motion of the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH (the Marquis of CLANRICARDE acquiescing), a select committee was appointed to inquire into the receipts and expenditure of the Post-office.

In the House of Commons upwards of fifty railway and other private bills were read a third time, and passed.

COLONIZATION.—Lord M. HILL reported her Majesty's answer to the address on the subject of colonization, stating she would direct further inquiries to be made, in order to enable Parliament to adopt a course free from those evils which past legislation had caused both to the emigrants and the colonies.

THE NAVIGATION LAWS.—On the motion of Lord J. RUSSELL, the resolution on which to found a bill for the further suspension of the Navigation-laws was agreed to.

QUARANTINE.—Mr. M. GIBSON, in reply to Dr. Bowring, stated that, by the new quarantine regulations, ships having clean bills of health would be immediately admitted to "pratique," from whatever part of the world they may come, and whatever may be their cargoes.

UNIFORM PENNY RECEIPT STAMP.—The plan for the adoption of a uniform penny receipt stamp, although hitherto neglected by the Government, is still urged in the City, and a petition on the subject has just been presented to the House of Commons. The existing tax possesses the two great qualities which invariably tempt to evasion, since, from its complications, it is no less inconvenient than burdensome. In 1783 the estimated produce of the receipt stamp tax, as then proposed to Parliament, at the rate of 2d. between £2 and £20, and 4d. for all higher sums, was £250,000 a year, and, notwithstanding the fact of the tax having since been increased to rates varying from 6d. up to 10s., the produce in 1843 was no more than £174,755. Taking into account the extension of business between these periods, the evidence is plain of some unfitness in the system, at least on its present scale, with the prevailing habits of business, and there can be little doubt that if suffered to continue without modification, it will rapidly fall into total disregard.—*Times*.

THE HEALTH OF TOWNS' ASSOCIATION.—The general committee of the Health of Towns' Association held a meeting on Thursday, to confer with members of the Legislature on the best means of supporting Government in the effort to pass the Health of Towns' Bill this session. The meeting was very numerously and influentially attended. The Marquis of Normanby presided. Many members of both Houses were present, and many leading members of the Society. The Marquis of Normanby made a good speech on the necessity of exertion. He had learned from Dr. Southwood Smith that fever is increasing: it is already threefold above the average in some districts; and long-closed fever wards of the hospitals are re-opened and overcrowded. Without such a measure it is hopeless to effect improvement. The district of Bethnal-green, which he visited, years ago, with Dr. Southwood Smith, has been the scene of exertion to promote all the conveniences and improvements that attend on wealth; but that part of it which is the abode of the poor, Lamb's-fields, still exhibits the same pool of pestilent stagnant water and heaps of squalidity: nine years have elapsed, and no efforts to stimulate the Commissions of Sewers have brought improvement. As to the bill before Parliament, it is hindered by a vexatious opposition, which attempts to fritter away its details; and the fact is, that Parliament has so much accumulated business to do that the machinery is insufficient for the purpose.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, June 16th.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

INTERVENTION IN PORTUGAL.

In both Houses, last night, the interference of the British Government in the domestic affairs of Portugal was the subject of long debate. In the House of Lords a division took place, and gave Ministers a majority of 66 to 47; in the Commons the House was counted out about eight o'clock.

Lord STANLEY introduced the question in the Upper House by moving a resolution to the effect that the papers laid before the House in reference to the intervention in the affairs of Portugal afforded no justification of that intervention. The noble lord, in sustaining his motion, commenced by laying it down as a proposition that we had no right to interfere in the internal affairs of a foreign state—a proposition which, he maintained, lay at the root of the whole question, and which he illustrated by reference to numerous passages in our more recent history, as well as to the recorded opinions of some of our greatest statesmen, both dead and living, such as Mr. Canning, Earl Grey, and the Earl of Aberdeen. He then accused Lord Palmerston, who, in 1829, had emphatically repudiated the principle of interference, of constantly intermeddling in the affairs of other countries to an extent only short of active interference by arms, and sometimes of carrying his intermeddling a little too far and intervening by force of arms. There was nothing in our relation with Portugal which justified our departure, in reference to it, from the principle which this country had recognized and so long acted upon, except for the purpose of protecting it from foreign invasion. He denied that such was the purpose for which the present intervention had taken place. The state of affairs in Portugal involved a question of a purely domestic character, entitling no other country to interfere; not affecting the safety of the dynasty, but affecting the withholding or the confirmation of the constitutional rights of the people of Portugal. The noble lord went over much the same arguments in support of his motion as were urged by his friends in the House of Commons, and concluded by declaring that he saw nothing but confusion as likely to arise from this gross violation of principle; nothing but embarrassment, complication, and difficulties, from an event which the whole of constitutional Europe must deplore.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE justified the policy of Government.

The Duke of WELLINGTON, who spoke from the cross benches, declared his intention of supporting Government on that occasion.

After speeches from the Earl of WINCHILSEA in favour of the motion, and from the Earl of St. GERMAN, Lord BEAUMONT, and Lord GRANVILLE, in support of the Government, their Lordships divided, when the numbers were—Contents 47, Non-contents 66; majority for ministers 19. The House then adjourned.

In the Commons, with the exception of a few remarks from Sir DE LACY EVANS, Sir ROBERT PEEL monopolized all the speaking. In introducing the subject he expressed his determination, so far as his example could avail, to break through the objectionable practice of postponing important public discussions to a late hour of the night. In his judgment, the papers laid before the House afforded satisfactory evidence that the Government, instead of having volunteered its armed intervention, had been necessitated to act the part for which it was now sought to arraign it before the country, and that the only object which it had in the policy on which it was thrown was to support an ancient monarchy, and at the same time to promote the constitutional liberties of its subjects. Whatever might be the inconveniences to which the policy of the Government might in future give rise, the evils averted by that policy were of much greater magnitude than those inconveniences could possibly be. It was now the duty of the Government to see that the conditions on which they had stepped forward to suppress the insurrection were duly fulfilled, and that whilst the ancient monarchy of Portugal was preserved, the constitutional liberties of the country were neither compromised nor impaired. So convinced was he of the propriety of the course pursued by her Majesty's Government, that, were he a member of the Cabinet, he would neither move the previous question, nor consent to accept of the amendment submitted by Mr. Duncombe, but meet the motion of Mr. Hume with a broad No, and trust to the good sense of the House to sustain the Government in what it had done.

Dr. BOWRING then rose, and was proceeding to address the House, when, on the motion of an hon. member, it was counted out.

In the earlier part of the evening Mr. BANKES gave notice that, in the event of the resolution of the hon. member for Montrose being negatived, and the amendment of the hon. member for Finsbury carried, he (Mr. Banks) should move a resolution to the effect that the House regretted that her Majesty's responsible advisers should have recommended interference by force of arms on behalf of either party in Portugal, without a previous communication on the subject from her Majesty to her faithful Commons.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL suggested that, as Mr. Hume's motion contained a censure on Government, the division on that should be taken first, and that afterwards Mr. Duncombe's amendment should be brought forward as a substantive motion, when he himself would second it. To this proposal the honourable member for Finsbury assented.

ELECTION MOVEMENTS.

NORWICH.—Mr. Peto has, at length, announced his intention of seeking the suffrages of the Norwich electors. His address is couched in very general terms. The following are the only two paragraphs which are deserving of notice, and they will, we are sure, be read with regret rather than satisfaction by many of his friends:

I have great confidence in the ability and integrity of the noble lord at the head of her Majesty's Government, and so

long as he may appear to me to act consistent with the great principles which he has hitherto advocated through his useful public life, it will be my duty and pleasure to render him a very cordial support, and more particularly amid the many difficulties and anxieties which now surround him in connexion with Ireland.

I would earnestly seek to maintain the cause of Civil and Religious Liberty, and it is my determination to govern my conduct on all occasions by a steady and consistent adherence to that principle, at the same time I disclaim all hostility to the interests of the Church of England.

At Norwich, this uncertainty about Mr. Peto's views has created painful differences. The *Norwich Mercury* claims him as the Whig candidate, and declares, from authority "derived from no second source," that Mr. Peto, the subscriber to the Anti-state-church Association, has no sympathy with the object of that Association, or with its "frenzied" supporters. It tells us (says the *Norfolk News*) that Mr. Peto, the largest subscriber to the opposition against the Government minutes of Education, "accords with that measure." It tells us that Mr. Peto, the hitherto consistent opponent of every form of State interference with religion or education, will be found to coincide absolutely with the Whigs, the main feature of whose present policy is the extension of that interference by every practicable contrivance. On Thursday there was a meeting, convened by some of the leading Whigs, of about 70 or 80 of the Liberal electors. Mr. Willett moved a resolution—"That this meeting is of opinion, that from the political sentiments expressed in the address now read, Mr. Peto is a fit candidate for the representation of this city." Mr. Thomas Brightwell seconded it. Mr. Tillett earnestly recommended that, before coming to a resolution in reference to the nomination of Mr. Peto, he be requested to come personally among us, and state his views to the electors. "I hesitate not to say, that I am prepared to act upon principle at the next election, and that principle is this—that I will vote for no man who will sanction legislative interference with the religion I profess. [hear, hear]. If any man is brought forward who objects to such interference, I will vote for him; if any one is brought forward who does not, let him be the nearest and dearest friend in the world, I will not vote for him. I claim, before I acquiesce in that resolution, to be satisfied whether the gentleman proposed will come up to the mark to which I have referred." The leading Whigs, however, declined to accede to this reasonable proposal, and after a varied expression of opinion and complaints of the indefinite character of Mr. Peto's address, the amendment was put to the meeting and lost by a majority of 2; 35 voting for the motion, 33 for the amendment. The Dissenters of Norwich, says the *Norfolk News*, have taken their stand, and they mean to maintain it, even though by so doing they should imperil the return of one of their dearest friends. They are not pledged to support a Dissenter, an amiable, intelligent, public-spirited, benevolent man, or even a man of liberal principles, and high Christian character as such; if this had been all, Mr. Peto might, under any circumstances, reckon on their unanimous suffrages, in common with those of many others of their fellow citizens. They are pledged to carry out at the hustings an uncompromising resistance to the endowment and educational policy of the Whigs. From their pledge, not even Mr. Peto's name and influence will seduce them to recede.

BOLTON.—The Dissenters of this borough have united in support of Mr. Brooks and Dr. Bowring, who are tolerably sure of being returned. The latter, a correspondent informs us, is willing to agree to the declaration published in our last number. Mr. Ainsworth is the opposing candidate, but is not in great favour with any party.

NORTH ESSEX.—Mr. J. Gurdon Rebow is the Whig candidate. Major Beresford, the present member for Harwich comes forward in the Conservative interest. The former in his address says:—"By education and conviction I am strongly attached to the Established Church, and shall jealously guard and support the Protestant Institutions of the country; nor would I consent to the endowment of a Roman Catholic priesthood by the State." As will be seen from the advertisement in another column a large number of the dissenting electors have resolved to hold aloof from the contest altogether.

THE QUEEN went in state yesterday to the Italian Opera.

The "BRITANNIA," and "United States," steamers, Washington, started from New York at the same time: the former arrived in the Mersey on Sunday, the latter yesterday.

THE LATE ACCIDENT ON THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—The adjourned investigation into the circumstances attending the above calamitous accident was resumed at Wolverton yesterday morning, the coroner and jury re-assembling at eleven o'clock. The proceedings commenced with the examination of the medical witnesses, all of whom testified to the fact that the deceased parties had lost their lives by suffocation. The jury remained in deliberation three hours, and at half-past six, p.m., gave in the following verdict:—

"Manslaughter against Barnard Fossey; and, in returning this verdict, the jury feel it their duty to express their opinion that the company ought to be more particular in their selection of officers for posts of such importance, for the safety of the public, as the one lately occupied by Barnard Fossey; that Barnard Fossey, having turned a train on the same siding on Monday, May the 31st, contrary to rule, ought to have been dismissed immediately; and, lastly, that every train should have a number of breaks and guards proportioned to the size and weight of the train, it appearing quite evident to the jury that, had that precaution been taken, the train might have been stopped, and the recent awful and melancholy catastrophe have been thus avoided."

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16.

The supplies this week consist of 1,410 qrs. English, 3,340 qrs. Irish, and 9,820 qrs. Foreign wheat; 480 qrs. English, and 520 qrs. Foreign barley; 3,300 qrs. Irish, and 1,770 qrs. Foreign oats, with 1,160 sacks English, and 22,000 barrels Foreign flour.

The weather continuing fine for the growing crops, and our buyers in expectation of liberal supplies of grain and flour, the business done in our market to-day was very limited, but prices without variation.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.
 For Eight Lines and under 6s. 0d.
 For every additional Two Lines 6d.
 Half a Column . . . £1 | Column. £2

The terms of subscription are 6s. 6d. per Quarter, 13s. for Half-a-year, or 26s. per Annum, exclusive of the three extra numbers in May. In future all parties paying One Year's subscription in advance (to the Publisher direct), will be entitled to the extra numbers in May gratis, and ministers of religion will be allowed a considerable reduction.

THE Publishing Office of the *Nonconformist* is now removed to 4, Horse Shoe-court, Ludgate-hill; where all Communications to the Editor and Publisher should in future be addressed. All remittances and post-office orders should be made payable to Charles Miall.

Any of our subscribers who may be desirous of circulating the Reports of the Anti-state-church Conference and the Conference in opposition to the Government scheme of Education, may obtain copies at half price (or 3d. each) on application to the office.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Our Salisbury correspondent is informed that the letter he has sent us will be published in our next number.

"A Young Noncon." 12, Warwick-square. Sixpence.
 "A Dissenting Elector" and "Thos. Wyles." We should have been glad to have inserted both, but for want of room.

Our Glasgow correspondent is referred to a letter from "A Friend," in this week's *Nonconformist*—one paragraph of which accurately expresses our own opinions on the subject.

We refer our Newport correspondent to the address to Dissenters, published elsewhere.

Henry Solly being about to remove to Cheltenham would be much obliged if the unknown friend who has hitherto forwarded the *Noncon.* to him would, for the future, be kind enough to direct it to the care of Mr. Thomas Turner, Montpellier Avenue, Cheltenham.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 1847.

SUMMARY.

WE publish this day, as our readers will have perceived in the first page of the *Nonconformist*, an address to Dissenting electors, already numerously and respectfully signed, and which might have appeared with ten-fold the number of signatures, had number alone been considered an object. The address will go forth, we understand, to every borough in the kingdom, with permission to re-print and circulate it as widely as possible. The friends of anti-state-church principles will, we earnestly trust, avail themselves to the utmost extent of the facility thus given them for agitating effectively in behalf of those great ecclesiastical truths upon which the Legislature has recently trampled with contempt. The issuing of this address—the signatures appended to it—and the intelligence contained in our columns of this day of the movement of Dissenting electors in various boroughs of the empire, indicate a more resolute determination on the part of Nonconformists to eschew party alliances, and to stand upon the basis of their own principles, than they have ever before displayed. The policy, we know, tells with stunning effect upon Liberal candidates. They are taken wholly by surprise. Their talk now is that the Dissenters actually mean something, and, with sundry imprecations upon their heads, they declare that they could easily deal with the fellows, if they were not in the right. We need hardly remind our friends that everything now demands upon their unwavering fidelity. The smallest compromise, on whose behalf soever, will do irreparable damage to the cause. Better never to have taken such a position than, having taken, to abandon it. But we cannot fear.

The most prominent topic which has come before Parliament during the past week, the debate on which has been twice adjourned, is the intervention of the British Government in the domestic affairs of Portugal. It will be remembered, that Mr. Hume had given notice of his intention to bring the subject under discussion, and deferred doing so from time to time in consequence of the non-production of diplomatic correspondence. Ministers appear to have contrived a delay of the papers until their intervention had borne its fruits. On Friday morning intelligence reached the metropolis of the capture of Das Antas, and 4,000 men, by Sir Thomas Maitland. It appears that the Portuguese fleet, after having sailed out of Oporto, was summoned by the "America" frigate, a British man-of-war, to surrender; and that, under protest in the name of the Portuguese nation against this act of warfare on the part of Great Britain, without due warning, they did surrender without firing a shot. The news of the event of course considerably influenced the discussion. The speech of Mr. Hume, who opened it, was extremely able, and laid bare the oppressive policy of the Portuguese Court, to the reprobation of all who care for justice or mercy. He erred, however, in having given too little attention to the papers laid before Parliament. His case was made out far more satisfactorily against the Portuguese than against the British Government. He was not well provided with proof that the latter had sympathized with the designs of the former. Of this Lord John Russell took advantage in his unusually elaborate reply, and endeavoured to establish the conclusion that the intervention was really to

secure for the insurgents that very constitutional freedom which they professed to be seeking. The strength of his argument was, that France and Spain would have interfered to prevent the final discomfiture of Donna Maria, and that had Great Britain stood aloof, all the objects of the constitutional party would, unquestionably, have been frustrated. The speech seems to have told upon some members whom we are accustomed to regard as independent. Of these Mr. Thomas Duncombe is the foremost. He has moved an amendment binding ministers to secure, as the fruit of their intervention, an efficient guarantee for the liberties of the Portuguese people, and he declared his opinion much changed by the course which the debate had taken. The question, it appears, to us, is little altered by the fact that one party will profit by British intervention more than the other. Why have we meddled in the affair at all? On what principle do we aim to regulate the international good of foreign states? We have, however, dealt with this subject more at large below, and we dismiss it now with the earnest hope that the division will give to the Whig Cabinet such a warning as will prevent them hereafter from setting themselves up as arbiters between foreign courts and peoples.

The other matters which have come under the notice of the House of Commons relate to rail-ways, and the transportation of criminals. We must refer our readers for what was done to our Parliamentary intelligence.

The House of Lords have been occupied chiefly with ecclesiastical questions. A bill for the creation of the bishopric of Manchester brought out the opinions of many of their lordships touching the necessities of the Established Church. The Whigs, it will be seen, proceed stealthily, step by step. They begin with one new bishop, and a promise of four more hereafter. They intimate, however, that a much larger addition to the bench is needed. In this Lord Stanley agrees with them, and proposes the creation of suffragan bishops, in conformity with an old statute, still unrepealed. The suggestion did not seem to meet the approbation of their spiritual lordships. It seemed to be thought that twenty-four bishops, wholly unconnected with political duty, might evince so much activity, earnestness, and spirituality in their really professional engagements, as to contrast most untowardly with the conduct of their more elevated brethren. The Bishop of Exeter made and withdrew a motion to the effect that it was inexpedient to exclude clergymen, not in the performance of parochial duty, from scholastic engagements under the Minutes of Council. Taking the premises of ministers themselves his argument was unanswerable, and Lord Lansdowne launched his sarcasm at it to little effect. One thing, however, we gather—the country has no sort of guarantee that the Bishop of Exeter will not ultimately prevail. The decision which excludes clergymen is a mere arbitrary arrangement of the Committee of Council adopted to stave off a temporary emergency. The arrangement may be put an end to at any future time, and, so soon as it has answered its purpose, it will probably be infringed upon without scruple.

The reports from all parts of the country, in fact from almost every country in Europe, of the prospects of the coming harvest, are of a most gratifying description. From all quarters we have the promise of a season of abundance to succeed the present season of scarcity. Under the influence of these encouraging symptoms prices are again receding. The favourable reports from America, especially the expectations held out of very large orders for our manufactured goods, have already tended to revive our drooping trade, and restore confidence in the mercantile world. It is true that the staple article of food in Ireland is threatened with a recurrence of the fatal blight, but at present the indications of disease are only partial, whilst the culture of the potato has to a very considerable extent been superseded by green crops, which promise an almost unprecedented yield.

The progress of our Prussian brethren in the path of constitutional freedom is as gratifying as it is unexpected. The United Diet have shown, on several occasions, their determination to exercise rightly and for the benefit of the nation the power reluctantly conceded by the sovereign. They are striving to make that a reality which was intended only for a show. The command of the purse promises to prove, in their hands, an effectual instrument for realizing the full benefit of a representative government. The Diet have, by a large majority, rejected a grant of money proposed by Ministers for the making of a railway, not because they undervalue the importance of the proposed line, but because they have not yet received any satisfactory statement of the national finances. This has placed the King and his Ministers in a position of great difficulty, from which, according to all appearance, they can only clear themselves by complying with the reasonable request of the Parliament.

MEDDLESOME MATTY.

WE had hoped that British interference in the domestic broils of other states had gone clean out of vogue. The ruinous expenses we have incurred, the blood we have spilt, and the demoralization we have induced, in foolish and futile efforts to prop up toppling thrones, and to back legitimate tyrants against the consequences of their own oppression, had been enough, we imagined, to sicken the English public of "intervention" in any of its phases. Lord Palmerston is clearly of an opposite opinion. Whether we are to attribute it to the noble lord's disposition or his destiny, certain it is that there is scarcely a quar-

rel upon the face of the earth into which he does not contrive to involve the British Government—scarcely a difference of opinion between nations that he does not irritate into ugly symptoms of a European war. His connexion with the cabinet appears to exercise all the unhappy influence upon continental states, which the presence of one busy, ill-natured person does upon a family. It is the general signal for mutual discontent, hostility, intrigue, and confusion. Under the mask of common courtesies, all sorts of evil machinations are set afoot. The Foreign Secretary is a political Meddlesome Matty—alternately put to work and snubbed by every Court in Europe. That he means well is nothing—the misfortune is, that when he means the best, his mode of compassing it does infinitely more mischief than any direct evil he has power to perpetrate.

The armed intervention of the British Government in the affairs of Portugal is a case in point. It may be that Lord Palmerston's officiousness was directed exclusively to the furtherance of popular liberty. It may be that it was solely on this account—out of his sincere sympathy with a shamefully oppressed and insulted people—that, sorely against his will, he interfered between Donna Maria and her indignant subjects. The strict neutrality which was preserved until the Queen's cause became thoroughly hopeless—the employment of Colonel Wylde, Prince Albert's equerry, in the business of mediation—the close relationship between the King Consort of Portugal and the husband of the Queen of England—the armed intervention just when Das Antas and Sa Badeira were securing a final victory—the outwitting Louis Philippe—the elevation of Spain, so flattering to her in her present deplorable weakness, into a nominally first-rate power—these, perhaps, are merely incidents which must be set down amongst the curious combinations of chance. Not one of them does anything to let in light upon the motives of the Whig ministry. Oh! no! these universal philanthropists had but one object in view—to secure constitutional liberty for the Portuguese people with as little bloodshed as possible! Hence, they interposed when their interposition was not wanting to the popular cause—and hence, no doubt they captured Das Antas and his followers, without giving ordinary notice, to save the constitutional party from the violence of their own supporters.

We know not which most to condemn—the intervention itself, or the reasons assigned for it. The intervention itself is one of pure, downright, uncalled-for meddling in affairs which do not belong to us. What interest have we in the House of Braganza? If the Portuguese people, deceived so often, insulted so gratuitously, ground down so unmercifully, by a Court insensible alike to decency and to honour, desired to send Donna Maria on her travels as the French nation did Charles the Tenth, what right had we to say nay? Who constituted us the high police of Europe? Who gave us a charter to step up to quarreling parties, propose terms to be rejected by both, and then back our mediation by the sword? Where is this to end? The result may be fortunate—the immediate issue may be such as the real friends of Liberal Government would wish—but who authorized Lord Palmerston and his colleagues to take upon themselves, during the session of Parliament too, the responsibility which this intervention involves? Had Russia interposed her armies between Louis Philippe and his throne, who would have cried out more lustily than the Whigs? Should the King of the French, emboldened by their precedent, proclaim an armed intervention in the affairs of Spain, what protest could the Whigs present in opposition to it? No special pleading can disguise the fact that Lord Palmerston has once more been guilty of a meddling policy, the fruits of which may hereafter ripen into a general war.

The pretexts for this interference strike us as palpably hollow. It is notorious that, but for the presence of our ships of war in the Tagus, the dispute between the Court of Lisbon and the Junta of Oporto would have been settled long since. It is admitted that, just at the moment of our ill-advised appearance on the stage, the popular party were on the eve of triumph. It is pleaded, indeed, that that triumph would have terminated in the ultimate restoration of Dom Miguel, but with so little show of reason that Lord John Russell was compelled to abandon the plea as untenable. Aye! but then the Junta was in the hands and under the dictation of a ferocious and sanguinary rabble, whose sole object was anarchy and plunder. Lord John gravely declares this. On whose authority? On that of a Portuguese gentleman, forsooth, whose name he did not give. And so, because an anonymous Portuguese gentleman attributes to his countrymen the most nefarious designs, England, represented in this matter by Lord Palmerston, deems it necessary to step in and proclaim authoritatively, all for the good of Portugal, "these people shall not carry their point." Might not the Reform Bill rioters have been quite as justly described by an English gentleman resident in Russia—attached, perhaps, to the aristocracy and the court, and speaking out his resentment rather than his belief—and would this have justified Russia in taking forcible steps for destroying the prospects of all right-minded reformers? But France was about to interfere. Spain made a show of sending an army into Portugal. Well! does it become us to anticipate them in all their officious continental policy? Are we for ever to be mixed up with the dirty intrigues of diplomatic underlings and their masters? Is it for us



to take Louis Philippe's wicked work off his hands, in the expectation of being able to do it more to our own minds? Imagine Das Antas to have resisted our summons to surrender! Imagine two or three thousand lives to have been sacrificed! Who then would have valued at a fig's worth, the pretexts put forth so elaborately on Friday night by Lord John Russell?

Until within the last month the Whigs have displayed no sympathy for constitutional liberty in Portugal. Their acts have told against, rather than in favour of, the efforts of the insurgent people. Earnest remonstrance with the court at the proper time might have prevented much of the mischief which has ensued. We look upon their policy, therefore, as determined by far other causes than those prominently assigned. Palmerston is playing a game of continental diplomacy against Louis Philippe. Each strives to be beforehand with the other. The King has won in Spain—the Secretary is resolved to win in Portugal. The principles involved, the interests endangered, the expense incurred to purse and reputation, are comparative trifles to either. Wherever the one meddles, there the other regards it as his sacred duty to counter-meddle. They say, it is to maintain "the balance of power." What truth, morality, or religion, gain from that balance, we are at a loss to discover. It is a huge grave in which Foreign Secretaries are ever ready to bury their worst sins.

Much has been said by Whig journalists to hold up the policy recommended to Dissenters at the next general election, as unpatriotic, and some have dwelt with seeming earnestness upon the generic difference between Whigs and Tories. Again and again we have asked why our sympathies should just now be given to the first in preference to the last. In most things, they profess to think, as they assuredly act, alike. There is not a pin's head to choose between them. But in one matter modern Conservatism has the advantage. The foreign policy of the Peel Cabinet was eminently pacific and conciliatory. We have gained nothing here by a change to Whiggery. Lord Palmerston keeps us perpetually in hot water. No man can calculate where his meddling diplomacy, and his armed interventions, will carry us. It will be well if he resigns his portfolio before he embroils us in a European war. Let electors think of this when the day comes for recording their votes for Parliamentary representatives! They are too intelligent, we trust, to be mystified by the elaborate speciosities of Lord John. They may catechize candidates closely on this point—and if they have any desire for the preservation of peace, they will decline supporting those men who are ever ready to sanction the freaks of a political Meddlesome Matty.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORS' BILL.—This measure contains the following important provisions:—1. That all poor-rates and assessed taxes due on the 5th January must be paid before the 10th of July following, to entitle any person to be registered, and that a personal demand must be made within the time specified by the authorized collector. The present law requires the rates and taxes due on the 6th of April to be paid by the 20th of July. 2. That no person shall be disqualified by reason of not being rated, provided he have claimed to be rated previous to the making of the second rate in the electoral year, and that such claim may be served on the overseer at his house, or by post, as provided by the Registration Act. By the Reform Act, as interpreted by the judges of Common Pleas, every claimant must repeat his claim to be rated to every rate from which he is omitted. 3. That the overseer shall rate such claimant on the existing and all future rates, but that occupiers so claiming may deduct from the rent only so much as the landlord may have previously compounded for. 4. That every overseer who shall neglect to put upon the rate the name of every claimant, or to keep his name upon each following rate during his occupation, shall be liable to a penalty of £5. Under the present law and practice, overseers omit the names of claimants from all rates with impunity. 5. That any collector who shall neglect to demand the rates or taxes, with the intent to enable any person to be registered without paying the same, shall be liable to a penalty of £20.

CONFERENCE ON THE AFFAIRS OF PORTUGAL.—On Saturday afternoon the representatives of France, Spain, and Portugal at the British court, assembled at the Foreign-office, Downing-street, and held a conference with Lord Palmerston, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, on the affairs of Portugal. The conference broke up soon after five o'clock.

A STATE BALL, the second of the season, was given at Buckingham-palace, on Friday. Besides the various members of the Royal Family and officers of State, the guests included the illustrious foreign visitors. The invitations exceeded 2,000; and the attendance of company was as unprecedented in brilliancy as in number. The Queen was attired very elegantly, in pink and white, with trimmings of pink acacias and diamonds, a wreath of acacias and diamonds forming the head-dress. Prince Albert wore his Field-Marshal's uniform, with a Russian order of knighthood, in addition to the stars of the British orders, and the ensigns of the Golden Fleece. As on former occasions, the entire suite of State rooms was thrown open, the throne room being added to the ball room for dancing.

The ceremony of christening the infant daughter of Lord and Lady Charles Wellesley took place at twelve o'clock on Monday, in the private chapel in Buckingham-palace, in the presence of the Queen and Prince Albert, the Duke of Wellington, Lord and Lady Charles Wellesley, &c., &c. The infant was named Victoria Alexandrina. The sponsors were her Majesty, the Queen, the Marchioness of Douro, and the Marquis of Exeter. In the evening, the Queen and Prince Albert honoured the Duke of Wellington with their company at dinner, at Apsley-house.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND. (From our own Correspondent.)

Things are not to be taken so easily as I last week anticipated. Mr. Whatley, the Queen's Counsel, is coming forward to oppose Mr. Mason's return for South Shields. The cry is, the maintenance of, and refusing of inquiry into, the navigation laws. Mr. Whatley will have no inquiry. He, of course, is a Conservative. Mr. Wawn, whose local influence is strong, and whose industry as a shipping member of the House is beyond all praise, we should consider to be perfectly safe. Mr. Wawn will commence an active canvass directly.

The Free-traders of Newcastle met last week, and adjourned until Wednesday night, when they will decide upon a candidate. "If you bring a candidate forward," say the Tories, "we will spend £10,000 but Mr. Hinde shall be returned."

Mr. A. J. Moore, an alderman of Sunderland, has introduced a Mr. Wilkinson, a "City merchant," and a Liberal, to that constituency; but as the gentleman has not pronounced yet, I am not able to state what kind of a Liberal he is.

The gentlemen appealing to the citizens and freemen of Durham (freemen! save the mark) are—the present member, Mr. T. C. Granger, on the Whig interest; Mr. David E. Wood, son of Colonel Wood, of Littleton, and nephew to the Marquis of Londonderry, in the Tory interest; and Mr. John Fawcett, of the City of Durham, is talked of as the other Whig candidate. The Purvis party, in the absence of another Tory candidate, refuse to vote for the Marquis's nominee; and the Marquis, in retaliation, has put the ban upon any of his tenants or dependants voting for Henry T. Liddle for the northern division; and that brings me to the counties.

Mr. Liddle's long rigmarole of an address is laughed at by men of all parties. He appeals to his past services, and his past services are found to be—passing through Parliament a bill for the better protection of ladies' lap-dogs: making it a transportable offence to steal one of those beauties. It will be in the recollection of some of your reader too, that he made a fearful onslaught upon the Sunderland poor-law guardians, which for a gentle man of his mild temperament was something rather particular. The scene is popularly known as the "murder of the innocents." He had been crammed by a *quondam* friend of his, an attorney in Sunderland, of the name of "Judas" Wright, with the statement that some dirty pauper children had disappeared from that town; thus he made a point in a speech upon the poor-laws, bringing down a withering reply from Earl Grey, then member for the borough, and causing all kinds of inquiries, commissions, and protests—the whole affair turning out to be "In his mind's eye, Horatio." Last election Mr. Liddle had the prestige of Vane Londonderry's support. If facts were wanted to prove the necessity of a full, free, and extended suffrage they could be found here. The idea that a large proprietor like Lord Londonderry can buy up a seat for a city, and drag a lot of poor trembling wretches, calling themselves men, to the polling-booths and making them vote in county matters for "buff" or "blue" just as he pleases—that the Earl of Carlisle could return his own valet for Morpeth if he choose—that it takes some fifteen thousand pounds to contest a division like South Durham—goes to prove, I think, that the elective franchise as at present distributed, is a farce, a snare, and a delusion.

MR. STURGE AT LEEDS.

In his visits to the out-towns, Mr. Sturge has had the most encouraging reception. At Bramley the meeting was held out of doors, in the centre of the town, and from 1,500 to 2,000 persons were present. Mr. Sturge declared his principles fully to a most attentive audience, and the meeting voted with perfect unanimity that he was a fit and proper person to represent the borough in Parliament. At Hunslet and Holbeck he was received most cordially by great assemblages, and votes in his favour were passed amidst loud acclamations. It is Mr. Sturge's intention to visit the wards of the town in the course of next week. Committees are formed in the respective wards and townships, and the requisition sheets are in circulation. We hope the electors will hasten to sign them, as it cannot be known, until the requisition and canvass are completed, whether Mr. Sturge will feel justified in accepting the invitation given him by the Liberals of Leeds. It is, however, perfectly certain, and has been from the first, that Mr. Sturge has the hearty support of the Liberals as a body, and that no other Liberal candidate would have any chance in competition with him. It will be seen from a paragraph elsewhere that the section of Liberals who support Mr. Aldam have communicated with that gentleman, but no decision whatever has been come to. We apprehend it would be perfectly vain and hopeless to bring forward the honourable gentleman under present circumstances.—*Leeds Mercury*.

Mr. Sturge has now met in public meeting at least sixteen thousand of the inhabitants of Leeds; and out of that number we fearlessly say, that a dozen hands have not been held up in negation of the proposition that he is a fit and proper man to represent this borough in Parliament. If he went no further, we should be justified in saying that he will, if returned, be the real representative of the feelings and opinions of the great body of the inhabitants of this large and important borough.—*Leeds Times*.

STOCKPORT BOROUGH ELECTION.

Two candidates are in the field in conjunction with Mr. Cobden—Mr. Kershaw, of Manchester, and Mr. Jas. Heald, banker, of Parr's-wood. The contest is a very active one. Mr. Heald being a member of the Wesleyan body has secured a great portion of their support; some who love principle better than men are warm supporters of Mr. Kershaw. The most immoral means are being used to ensure the success and return of the Wesleyan candidate. Enormous supplies of intoxicating drinks are gratuitously distributed at the various committee rooms; indeed, every vile and slanderous attempt has been made to injure the public and private

character of Mr. Kershaw. Not a shilling has been spent by Mr. Kershaw in intoxicating drinks; every member of his committee has borne his own expenses. On Friday evening last an immense meeting was held in the Court-house, and every part of the room was inconveniently crowded. Mr. J. J. Moody occupied the chair, and explained the objects of the meeting. Charles Hudson, Esq., followed, and stated the glorious success which had attended Mr. Kershaw's canvass, and the certainty of his return. This met with the disapprobation of Mr. Heald's friends, who had mustered all their strength in order to frustrate the objects of the meeting. After order had been restored Alderman Brooks, of Manchester, rose to address the vast assembly, and was received with loud cheers by the majority of the meeting, and by a shower of groans and hisses from Mr. Heald's party, who seemed to have stationed themselves in various parts of the room and at the signals of their various leaders disturbed the meeting. Absalom Watkin, Esq., followed, and was very patiently heard and frequently applauded in the course of his address. He entered into an explanation of the public character of his able friend and his attachment and early connexion with the Anti-corn-law League—the many able and brilliant sacrifices he had made in endeavouring to promote the progress of free-trade principles, and showed that he was the friend of civil and religious freedom. No gentleman, he conceived, would be a more acceptable partner and colleague with Mr. Cobden than Mr. Kershaw. He was succeeded by Henry Coppock, Esq., the Town-clerk, who, in the course of a speech of thrilling eloquence, referred to the intoxicating bribes so freely dispensed by the other party; several direct charges fully substantiated were given, which were not denied by the other party. Mr. Marshall, of the Portwood, a manufacturer, made a direct and unhandsome attack upon the business character of Kershaw. The meeting almost unanimously called for an explanation of such a vile calumny. The chairman protested against the ungentlemenly conduct of Mr. Marshall and an explanation was still demanded, which Mr. Marshall seemed reluctant to give, but which he gave, to the disapprobation of the meeting. The Chairman introduced George Hadfield, Esq., of Manchester, who defended the character and principles of his esteemed friend, Mr. Kershaw, and in a manly and eloquent manner replied to the accusation made against his friend. He was followed by Mr. Kershaw, who, in a calm and deliberate and gentlemanly manner, replied to the attempts to sully his character, which, he stated, instead of doing harm would have the contrary influence, and stated that it was his determination to stand until the last minute of the day of poll. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, and three cheers for Cobden, and three for Mr. Kershaw, and for the chairman, the vast meeting dissolved,—greatly to the advantage of Mr. Kershaw, who is now become the popular candidate. The Wesleyans have much disgraced themselves in this contest, and will lose caste amongst all thinking independent and Christian men. It is melancholy to see ministers of religion countenancing a custom attended with great injury to the moral and religious character of the electors, and endeavouring to promote the return of a religious man by irreligious and debasing means. Mr. Thornton, the Independent minister, has written an able letter on the endowment of religious sects, which has had a very extensive circulation.—*From a Correspondent*.

WORCESTER.—Robert Hardy, Esq., the extensive iron founder, and well-known advocate of Anti-state-church principles, has announced his intention of going to the poll. Sir D. Le Marchant will also stand again, and the Whigs have sent for a third Liberal candidate—Mr. Robinson, chairman of Lloyd's. There are two Conservative candidates. We trust the Dissenters of Worcester will mark their sense of this policy of the Whigs by placing Mr. Hardy at the head of the poll.

BIRMINGHAM.—The non-electors held a meeting on Thursday evening: it was very numerously attended. The result was, a determination to use their efforts to secure the return of candidates in favour of an extension of the suffrage, and other reforms.

BOSTON.—The Parliamentary election has now fairly commenced in this town, and a spirited contest is anticipated. Four candidates are in the field—Sir James Duke and Mr. D. W. Wire on the Liberal side, and Mr. B. B. Cabbell and Mr. H. Ellis on the Tory side. A meeting of the friends and supporters of Sir James Duke was held on Friday evening last, in the Town-hall, and was most numerously and respectably attended. The friends of Mr. Cabbell met the same evening; but, in spite of the temptations of Sir John Barleycorn, it was not until the breaking up of the Liberal meeting that anything like a body of electors could be assembled. There is not the slightest doubt of the triumphant return of both the Liberal candidates.—*Lincoln Mercury*.

CAMBRIDGE.—Sir Fitzroy Kelly declines to solicit a renewal of the confidence of the electors. Mr. Sutton, on the contrary, comes forward once more as a candidate, and announces his intention in a very long address.

WINDSOR.—There are indications of a sharp contest for Windsor. Lord John Hay, one of the Lords of the Admiralty, has declared his intention to offer himself. His committee, and those of Colonel Reid and Mr. Neville, are organizing.

REPRESENTATION OF READING.—An influential meeting of the Protestant electors took place on Wednesday evening, at which it was resolved to organize an association for the maintenance of Protestant principles, and to secure the return of the present members, C. Russell, Esq., and Viscount Chelsea. Mr. Lord, secretary to the Protestant Association, attended the meeting. Up to the present time no candidate has announced himself in the Liberal interest, but it is generally understood that the agent and friends of Mr. Serjeant Talfoord are prosecuting a canvass among the Liberal electors. That the learned Serjeant will, however, stand at the approaching election is at present very doubtful, and his return more so. A large portion of the Liberal as well as Conservatives, have pledged themselves to the Pro-

testant declaration, which is considered a draw-back and disappointment to the learned Serjeant and his warmest supporters. A requisition to Mr. Serjeant Talfourd has been in course of signature within the last few days. The Reading Protestant Declaration, and a lengthened correspondence between the Protestant electors and borough members, is inserted entire in a leading article of the *Record* of Monday last, with the view of animating other electors to a course of vigorous exertion.—*Oxford Chronicle*.

LINCOLN.—At a meeting held to support Mr. Seeley, on Friday evening last, that gentleman avowed himself in favour of household suffrage, with a further extension to persons who could show that they had made deposits to a certain amount; for shorter Parliaments; for a further extension of the principles of free trade; for the general education of the people by the State—Roman Catholics to have the same privilege as others; against the endowment of the Catholic priests, and all State grants for religion; and for the separation of Church and State. Mr. S. added that attention might also be paid to the expenditure of the country, and that he saw no reason why it should now average six or seven millions annually more than it did a few years back.

NOTTINGHAM.—Sir J. C. HOBHOUSE BEWARE!—Time and experience have, we believe, convinced the people of Nottingham that the candidate who bribes is the people's worst enemy—is a mere political *charlatan*, without principle or feeling, or a political faith to guide him on his way; and hence we would advise Sir John Cam Hobhouse, when he next visits Nottingham, to rely on something better than his gold, or to prepare himself for an exposure which will neither add to his self-complacency nor extend his fame. The days of bribery have fled, we trust, into the same oblivion which now shrouds the once potent power and delusive watchwords of party. But if not—if the old demon of corruption should again invade our town, why then, by our reverence for political honesty, and our hope of the complete elevation and enfranchisement of the people, we vow to hunt it out in all its dark and devious movements, to tear off the mask which may screen its patrons, and to hold up the people's corruptors to their scorn and contempt.—*Notts Review*.

WESTMINSTER.—In the heading and introduction to the correspondence between Mr. Charles Lushington and Mr. East, published in our last number, it was stated by mistake that the former gentleman was a candidate for Marylebone. It should have been *Westminster*.

NORTH CHESHIRE.—At a meeting of the electors of North Cheshire, held at Manchester on Tuesday last, John Cheetham in the chair, Mr. Henry Coppock, of Stockport, opened the proceedings, and urged upon the meeting the propriety of accepting the offer made by the Conservatives of the county, viz., to support the Hon. E. J. Stanley and Mr. Tatton Egerton. Mr. Coppock's proposition led to a lengthened discussion, in which the attempt at coalition was strongly condemned by a large majority of those present, and a resolution to that effect was carried unanimously. Mr. Coppock then moved, that the Hon. E. J. Stanley was a fit and proper person to represent the Northern Division of the county of Cheshire in Parliament. An amendment was proposed to the effect that, the meeting was not in a condition, under existing circumstances, to support any single candidate, but without pronouncing any opinion on Mr. Stanley's merits. This led to a further discussion, the result of which was, that the amendment was carried by a large majority of those present. A resolution was then proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, appointing a committee to communicate with Mr. Stanley, Mr. E. Davenport, and other leading Reformers of the county with respect to the choice of candidates, and to report the result to a meeting to be held at the same place on Tuesday next. During the proceedings the strongest possible feeling was displayed against the attempt to compromise the Reform interest by a coalition with the Tories. We have since learned that this feeling has called into action a firm determination to contest the county rather than submit to have the Reform interest betrayed by so dishonourable a conspiracy.—*Manchester Times*.

BOLTON.—The requisition to Mr. Brooks is still in course of signature, and, from all we can learn, has been very numerously signed, taking into account the objections that are raised against pledging, as it does, support at the election. The most singular feature of the week is the refusal of Mr. William Bolling to come forward as a candidate. The field may be considered as left entirely to the reformers, who, under such circumstances, will have no difficulty in returning Dr. Bowring and Mr. Brooks.—*Manchester Examiner*.

REPRESENTATION OF YARMOUTH.—Mr. Wilshere having resigned his seat for this borough, Col. Anson has been requested to stand, but has refused. It is thought by some that there will be great difficulty in finding a candidate, if indeed, two be not wanted. It is far from improbable that Mr. Rumbold will also resign. It is said that his seat here, has already cost him £40,000, and that he will not be disposed to stand another contest.—*Suffolk Chronicle*.

HALIFAX.—On Thursday, a placard was posted on the walls in Halifax, inviting the electors and non-electors to meet in the Odd Fellows' hall, next Monday evening, at eight o'clock, to take into consideration the propriety of bringing forward two efficient members to represent this borough in Parliament. This movement is thought to originate with the Chartists, who, it is said, are anxious to bring forward, in the event of an election, Ernest Jones, Esq., barrister, of London; and it is also rumoured, along with a Conservative gentleman of Halifax, of high Church principles.—*Leeds Mercury*.

SALISBURY.—Rumour itself, generally so busy on these occasions, is silent, and "this deponent sayeth not" who is to depose either Mr. Chaplin or Mr. Wall. A not very contemptible portion of the electors—the Dissenters on one hand, with the Education Minutes, and the Churchmen on the other, with the frightful "No Popery" cry—threaten, by standing aloof, seriously to damage Mr. Wall's interests; and, should an opponent be found, probably the conflict would be severe.—*Hants Independent*.

MR. VINCENT AT IPSWICH.—On the evening of Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday last, Mr. H. Vincent addressed large audiences on the Cornhill. "He has," says the *Suffolk Chronicle*, "raised an enthusiasm which at no former period has been witnessed in this town. Nobody can gainsay his arguments, neither can any professed Liberal shrink from acknowledging his ability, his sterling patriotism, or his moral worth. Henry Vincent occupies at the present moment a prominent position, and as proud a one as it is prominent. With him and the cause he advocates is bound up not only the interests, but the very integrity of all those of the electors who call themselves Liberals. At present, no tangible manifestation or opposition has appeared, nor do we think there will be, for the demonstrations of public favour towards Mr. Vincent have been too unmistakeable for any section of quasi-liberals to venture to incur the odium which would necessarily attach to themselves were they to make the attempt. Immediately after the Cornhill meeting on Thursday night, an influential meeting of electors was held in Mr. Frazer's warehouse, when a committee of forty to fifty electors—as formed with power to add to their number, to secure that gentleman's return. A committee-room will be immediately opened. From the respectability of the meeting, and the earnestness of purpose by which it was characterised, we predict that the great mass of the Liberal electors will rally round Mr. Vincent. We understand a meeting of the electors convened by circular will be held as soon as arrangements can be made; and that Mr. Vincent also intends to address a meeting of the free burghesses." Mr. Rennie has issued an address announcing his intention to visit Ipswich this day (Wednesday).

BRADFORD.—Mr. Gaythorn Hardy and Mr. Wickham are the two candidates in the Conservative interest. On Tuesday evening the adjourned meeting of the Liberal electors of Bradford, to "determine what course it is advisable should be taken in the prospect of an early dissolution of Parliament," was held in the Temperance-hall in that town. The meeting was called for half-past seven o'clock, but it was nearly eight before the business was commenced. At this time there were upwards of 600 persons present, nearly the whole of whom were electors. The amendment ran as follows:—

That the late proceedings of her Majesty's Ministers have caused an incalculable difference of opinion among the Liberal electors; that it is, nevertheless, very desirable to preserve unity of action amongst them at an election; and that, with Mr. Busfield's views, it would be impossible to combine them in his support. That, at Mr. Busfield's advanced age, moreover, however willing to serve the town, he must begin to find Parliamentary duties too much for his physical strength; that this meeting, therefore, while deeply regretting to terminate their connexion with a member so deservedly esteemed, would respectfully suggest to him the desirableness, under all the circumstances, of withdrawing from the representation of the borough.

The resolution was to the effect, that the united requisition to Mr. Busfield and Colonel Thompson be adhered to. After several speeches, the Chairman put the amendment, when only about forty hands were held up in its favour. On the resolution being put, it was carried by an immense majority, nearly all those who had not voted in the first instance holding up their hands in its favour. Mr. Mensforth then stated, on behalf of the Radical party, that he should withdraw the resolutions which had been passed on Monday night, and should unite with them in carrying out the resolution just agreed to, and in securing the return of Mr. Busfield and Colonel Thompson, to the best of his power [applause]. Thanks were then voted to the Chairman, by acclamation, after which the meeting separated.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.—On Monday last, says the *Bucks Advertiser*, the day appointed for a personal canvass of the county voters residing in the borough by Mr. Cavendish, a deputation of the friends of civil and religious liberty waited upon the hon. gentleman at his committee-room, to put a question respecting the church-rate and State-church continuation. Mr. Cavendish, without any hesitation, at once replied that he should vote for any measure having for its end the abrogation of the church-rates, not in order that they might fall upon the consolidated fund, but upon church property; and in reference to a separation between Church and State, he seemed to give the question his serious consideration. Afterwards, the canvass on his behalf succeeded very satisfactorily to the wishes of his friends.

—Mr. Disraeli on Wednesday addressed the electors of the county of Bucks, at Newport Pagnell: he stated his intention to oppose the endowment of the Roman priests in Ireland, because he thought all State endowments were prejudicial to those who received them. On Saturday he addressed a meeting at Buckingham. He then said he had a claim on the clergy for their support. He was a supporter of Church and State. He did not like cries, but if a sincere opposition to the endowment of the Catholic priesthood was intended, why had his cordial support. He opposed the Maynooth grant, because he saw in it an intention to endow the Roman Catholic priesthood.

HUDDERSFIELD.—We regret to say that Mr. George Wilson, late chairman of the League, has declined the invitation of the electors of Huddersfield to become their candidate at the approaching election.

LIVERPOOL.—The Liberals of this town have induced Sir Thomas Bernard Birch, Bart., of the Hazles, to become their candidate at the next election, and on Thursday his address was before the electors. When Lord Melbourne administered the affairs of Ireland, Sir Thomas was his private secretary. The Tory party, instead of being united, appear in two very marked divisions. One of them (termed the M'Neillites) had a meeting on Wednesday, when much discussion took place, but no candidate was actually fixed upon. On Thursday, the other section of the Tories (styled the Peelites) held several *caucuses* on the Exchange Flags, and the prevalent feeling among many of them was that Lord Sandon ought to be re-elected without his offering himself.

OLDHAM.—On Wednesday evening a meeting of the parties friendly to bringing forward James Holladay, Esq., of Portland House, as a candidate for the representation of Oldham, took place at the Hare and Hounds Inn, Yorkshire-street. Mr. Leonard Heslop, of Manchester-street, was elected chairman. The

speakers, Messrs. Yardley, Quarby, Haslam, Marlor, &c., appeared quite confident that the result of the election would be favourable. Some of the Dissenters talk of inviting Elkanah Armitage, Esq., Mayor of Manchester, to become a candidate.

SOUTH LANCASHIRE.—Lord Brackley, like a sensible youth, has announced his intention of withdrawing himself from a contest with Mr. Villiers, who, with Mr. Brown, will doubtless be returned unopposed.

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME.—Mr. Buckley, the present member, retires; and Lord Brackley, finding his chance in South Lancashire hopeless, is seeking shelter here. His lordship has issued his address; but another candidate is in the field, and everything bids fair for a strong contest.

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.—June 15.—Two candidates for the representation of this borough have at length been found, Messrs. Blake and Crumpton—the former sat in the last Parliament, and the latter is, I understand, a member of the bar, and an entire stranger to the town; our present members are Conservatives, who have not yet presented themselves for re-election. Their votes on the Maynooth and free-trade questions having displeased a portion of their friends, a public meeting of the electors was held last night when the above-named individuals gave an exposition of their views on the great questions which are agitating the mind of the country at the present time. They are opposed to any further grants of the public money for religious purposes, but, as far as I can understand, will not vote for the separation of Church and State and are favourable to State education, secular but not religious. A very large extension of suffrage they are prepared to support, but not universal. It was moved and seconded; "That these gentlemen be invited to stand for the borough," and in the course of his observations one gentleman deprecated in strong terms the great efforts that were making to induce the belief that *parties were amalgamated*; he could see a vast difference between those consistent reformers, those steady friends to liberal and enlightened and progressive improvements, and those determined obstructives the parties who carried free-trade. About one third of the meeting supported the motion, and about half-a-dozen raised their hands against it.—*From a Correspondent*.

THE MIRFIELD MURDERS.—An important piece of evidence with respect to the murders at Mirfield has come to light. In the well at Mr. Wraith's house has been found a soldering-iron, supposed to have been employed in the slaughter; and this iron belonged to the father of one of the prisoners—Reid. At Mirfield, on Thursday, the coroner's jury sat on the case of Mr. Wraith and the two women, returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against Reid and McCabe.

SUICIDE ON A RAILWAY.—A young woman, unknown, has committed suicide on the South-western Railway at Wandsworth. As the seven o'clock express down-train approached a curve, the woman ran down a bank, and threw herself across the rails; the curve prevented the driver from seeing her, till the engine was too close to be stopped. The mangled body was hurled thirteen yards forward into a water-course. The deceased was respectably dressed, and had money in her pocket.

FORGERY BY A SOLICITOR.—Mr. Turner, a solicitor of Sheffield, has been committed for trial by the local magistrates on a charge of forging a writ. In November last Turner was employed by the trustees of a benefit club to sue a defaulter; before the writ arrived, the man paid his debt; Turner said he had received the document on the following day, and exacted 25s. costs. When the writ was demanded, he reluctantly delivered it up: there were erasures in it. This writ appears to have been issued in January, 1846; and Turner had no defence to the charge, as he could produce no letter from his London agent respecting the matter.

THE LOSS OF THE "EXMOUTH."—It appears, from an official report, that the number of persons who perished in the "Exmouth" emigrant-ship, which was dashed to pieces on the iron-bound coast of the isle of Islay, amounted to 220. According to the last accounts, the bodies of 108—mostly naked, and shockingly mangled—have been fished up from the crevices of the rocks. Two gentlemen of the Campbell family have caused them to be decently interred.

THE BODY OF A MAN who was supposed to have been murdered has just been discovered in Gransha Bog, near Newtonards, after an interval of twenty years. The corpse was in a perfect state of preservation, and was recognized by several persons as that of Hugh Dunlop; the wrist-bone was broken. The man's clothes had been found many years ago, not far from the spot where the body has been disinterred.

THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.—A paragraph appeared in the *Globe* last week in allusion to painful rumours which were abroad respecting the pecuniary difficulties of the above-named nobleman. We regret to have to confirm them. An execution has been put into his grace's princely residence (Stowe House, Buckinghamshire) for a large sum. It is the duke's intention to break up his establishment forthwith, and proceed with the duchess to the continent. For years past large sums have been borrowed by his grace, at the rate of five and six per cent., upon security of his unencumbered property, to buy land with, in order to increase the Chandos interest in the county; for this outlay of capital, a per centage (upon an average) of about two and a half per cent. only has been realized by the transaction, making his grace, of course, a considerable loser. So much for Buckingham! Alas! for the poor creditors who supplied the wherewithal to clothe and feast the 1,000 agricultural labourers when the Queen and the Prince visited Stowe. How far the Duke deserves sympathy may be gathered from the following, extracted from the *Bucks Advertiser*:—"It will be seen, by our report of the Ashenden petty session, that his Grace the Duke of Buckingham has summoned a poor man before the bench for the atrocious crime of taking a partridge egg from land in the occupation of a Mr. Fuller."

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

PRUSSIA.

THE DIET STAND UPON THEIR RIGHTS.—BERLIN, JUNE 9.—Another important debate took place yesterday—important on account of the subject, but doubly so on account of the extraordinary decision at which the house arrived. It will be remembered that, shortly after the diet had been convened, an official document was laid before it respecting the Grand Junction line of railway from Stettin to Königsberg and Dantzig, the Government appearing to attach very great importance to the construction of that railway. In fact, it was confidently asserted at the time, in political circles in Berlin, that it was precisely in order to obtain the required funds for this great undertaking, that the Prussian Government resolved to hasten the time for convoking the general diet. The advantage and utility of such a line were generally acknowledged in both Houses, particularly, perhaps, in the lower one; and yet, strange to say, the proposition has been negatived by an overpowering majority, there being 360 votes against the plan, and only 179 for it. It is necessary to state here that the decision of the diet was mainly, if not solely, based on political motives. The object of the hostile vote this day is to compel the Government to recognize the rights guaranteed to the (future) general diet by the law of January, 1820, and, consequently, to give it a greater, and, above all, a more certain control over the public finances than it enjoys by virtue of the patent royal of February 3. The members of the Government spoke several times during the day, in order to impress upon the diet the evil of making the question before it a political one. All was in vain, the diet remained true to its principles, and, it may be added, true to itself, and the result was, that the Government plan was rejected, on purely political grounds, by a majority of 181.

The *Cologne Gazette* states, in a letter from Berlin, that the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Prussia has already assured several deputies that the Government has determined on abolishing the censorship, and on establishing, on defined bases, the laws relative to the press.

PORTUGAL.

CAPTURE OF THE INSURGENT'S FLEET.—Advices from Lisbon, of the 4th instant, recount a serious reverse to the insurgent forces. The British fleet off Oporto consisted of the "America" frigate and three steamers, commanded by Sir Thomas Maitland. Steamers in the service of the Junta were suffered to enter the port and take troops on board. On the 31st of May, the Portuguese fleet sailed out of Oporto—a corvette and three armed steamers; one barque, one brig, and two schooners, transports; all containing about 4,000 troops, under the command of Conde das Antas. After they had crossed the bar they were summoned to surrender, and surrendered they did, without firing a shot. As soon as he was on board the English ship, the Conde das Antas presented to the British commander a protest, in the name of the Portuguese nation, against this act of warfare on the part of Great Britain without declaration or pretext.

When Admiral Sir William Parker heard of the capture, he sent a very friendly note to "my dear Viscount," Sá da Bandeira, entreating him to suspend hostilities, and to follow the example of submission; offering him a safe asylum; and looking forward to the brighter prospects of Portugal by means of a general pacification. Sá da Bandeira answered in a more formal note:—

In reply, I have to tell you that I shall defend myself if I am attacked; but also, that upon the appearance of the new and powerful enemy which has presented itself against the cause of the people of Portugal, I shall suspend hostilities until I receive the instructions of the Junta of the Supreme Government of the kingdom.

At the request of Sá da Bandeira, Admiral Parker gave one of the Viscount's aides-de-camp the means of going to Oporto, but he had not returned.

SWITZERLAND.

ANOTHER CASE OF INTERVENTION.—Letters from Berne, of the 4th instant, relate a very important step taken by M. Bois le Comte, the French Ambassador. In a letter to M. Ochsenbein, President of the Directory, M. Bois le Comte represents that 15,000 Frenchmen who reside in Switzerland, under the faith of treaties, must be protected from the Free Corps (of which M. Ochsenbein was leader); and he reminds the President, that the Act of Vienna does not recognize Switzerland as a unity but as a federal state, each Canton having independent existence and a claim to protection against infringement of its rights and of the treaties that attest those rights. M. Ochsenbein assures the French Minister that the Swiss Government will maintain public order, and will violate no existing treaties; but he adds, that it has both the will and the power to repel foreign interference in the domestic affairs of the republic.

At Geneva, the citizens have assembled in Council-General, and have re-elected M. Fazey and several other members of the Provisional Government, formed after the revolution of October; who thus constitute a new Council of State.

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

The "Britannia" arrived in the Mersey on Sunday night, and brings advices from New York to the 31st ult. Intelligence from the seat of war states that General Scott was advancing rapidly upon Mexico. Although short of troops—a large number of volunteers having left him, their time of service having expired—he had pushed on column to Puebla, where no resistance was expected. General Worth had taken possession of Perote, without opposition. General Taylor, in consequence of a large number of troops having left him, was unable to move from his position.

In the capital of Mexico everything was in confusion. Little or no preparation for defence was made. The Deputy-President, Anaya, had declared the city under martial law, but his term of service would expire on the 15th inst., when a permanent President would be established. The better class of people were deserting the city, and the Government itself had made pre-

paration for removing to Morelia. The guerilla system had been established. Canales, in a proclamation, commanded his followers to spare neither age nor condition. Every American found within the territory of Mexico, whether armed or unarmed, was to be put to the sword.

It was stated that General Alvarado was marching from the north of Mexico with more than 25,000 troops, who will be scattered in guerilla parties between Jalapa and Puebla and towards Vera Cruz, and a general disposition exists among the inhabitants of many villages to arm and accompany him as guerillas.

Meanwhile, the Mexican Congress had, by a deliberate vote, resolved to reject the British Minister's offer of mediation. Santa Anna had despatched emissaries to various degrees, enlisted the energies and excited the hopes of the people of England. That as men are naturally equal, they should be politically so; that as freedom is the inalienable gift of God, it should be secured by the arrangements of society; that as every member of the State must obey its laws and contribute to its resources, he should possess influence in the enactment of the former, and the disbursement of the latter; that manhood, not wealth, should constitute citizenship; that the Government should emanate immediately from the people, operate closely in accordance with their will, and be directly responsible to them;—these are no new doctrines. That in order to reduce this equitable theory to beneficial practice, Parliaments be chosen according to ancient usage—annually and by universal suffrage, nonage, insanity, and crime, being the only disqualifications for the exercise of the franchise; that to prevent bribery and intimidation, voting by ballot be adopted; that to obviate undue local influence the country be divided into equal electoral districts; and that, lest the choice of the people should be circumscribed, or the commonwealth deprived of the services of fitting men, property qualifications be no longer required, and the payment of members revived;—these are no novel demands.

Deeply convinced that they are as inherently just and as practically important as ever, we have banded ourselves together to advocate and enforce them, with, we hope more than former efficiency and success.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

SCINDE, APRIL 10, 1847.—The construction of barracks for the European troops at Hyderabad is proceeding apace. The cost of these buildings will be nearly seventy thousand pounds sterling. Yet retaining our countrymen in this Golgotha is against public opinion. Near the spot are two monuments which tell a fearful tale—one erected by the Queen's 36th, to the memory of 98 persons belonging to that regiment who died in five months. And the other, to the memory of 291 persons belonging to the 78th Highland regiment, who died at Hyderabad in two months. Yet the mortality of the Highlanders at Sukkur had been far greater than ever it was at Hyderabad. Scinde is visited every few years by frightful attacks of the Asiatic cholera, which carry off vast numbers of the inhabitants. A lot of camels were sold off by Government the other day; they cost from £8 to £18 sterling per camel, and brought 10s. to 30s. each.—*Morning Herald*.

THE BELGIAN ELECTIONS have terminated in the triumph of the Liberal over the Catholic party. The present Ministry will, it is thought, be turned out. The King continues indolent.

THE QUAKERS OF SWEDEN.—CHRISTIANA, JUNE 3.—Under date of the 19th of last month his Majesty has, in conformity with the tenth section of the law of the 14th of July, 1845, been graciously pleased to resolve:—"That members belonging to the Society of Friends or Quakers, in cases where oaths are required to be made, can give their affirmation as follows:—'I declare and solemnly assure,' which is to be taken and accepted as fully as if an oath had been duly made; but in all cases where circumstances will admit of it, the authority before whom the affirmation is made is to point out to the party making it the solemn importance of the act, and the responsibility and consequence he thereby incurs."

THE PRINCE ARCHBISHOP OF BRESLAU has been put under arrest in his own palace for a month, for having given publicity to the sentence of excommunication pronounced by him upon Prince Germain de Hatzfeld, a measure contrary to the laws of the country, without the special authorization of the Government.

THE INSTALLATION AT CAMBRIDGE.—Her Majesty and the Prince (who, it is understood, will be accompanied by their RR. HH. the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal) will arrive here on Monday morning, July 5, travelling by the Eastern Counties Railway. From the station to Trinity College the royal party will be escorted by the high sheriff of the county and the corporation of Cambridge. At three o'clock the Chancellor will proceed to the senate-house, to confer honorary degrees. In the evening the Royal party will dine with the Vice-Chancellor, and afterwards attend a grand concert in the senate-house, for which, we believe, Jenny Lind has been engaged. On Tuesday morning the installation ode, written by the poet Wordsworth, and set to music by Professor Walmisley, M.A., will be performed in the senate-house. In the afternoon there will be a horticultural *fête* on a grand scale in the gardens of Downing College, and in the evening a banquet in the hall of Trinity College; after which it is expected that the Queen will hold a levee. On Wednesday there will be a public breakfast in the grounds of Trinity and St. John's Colleges, which are to be temporarily united by a bridge for the occasion. In the afternoon the royal party will leave Cambridge.—*Cambridge Independent*.

THE INCOME-TAX.—Alluding to the Income-tax and the detected abuses in its collection, the *Times* says—"Since we drew public attention to this subject, on the 15th of May last, we understand the Basinghall-street Commissioners have had a most searching inquiry and investigation into the system of surcharges, and have inflicted most summary justice on one of their officials; but, if all we hear is true, their vengeance has fallen upon a minor offender when compared with an officer connected with the Stamps and Taxes, who has been in receipt of no less a sum than £600 arising from the poundage allowed by Government out of the City Income-tax! We wait the decision of the Board before we make further comment; but it is quite impossible this tax can be renewed until Parliament has inquired into the whole proceedings connected with what has been taking place during the last three months in Basinghall-street."

In consequence of the earnest desire felt by the late Dr. Arnold, as recorded in the history of his life, that some mark of Royal favour should be bestowed on Rugby School, the Queen has been graciously pleased to intimate her intention to found a gold medal, for the special encouragement of the study of history at that institution.—*Globe*.

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR PROMOTING THE REAL REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE IN PARLIAMENT.

TO THE PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN,—We are a new organization for the promotion of an old object—an object that has, for more than half a century, under various names, and to various degrees, enlisted the energies and excited the hopes of the people of England. That as men are naturally equal, they should be politically so; that as freedom is the inalienable gift of God, it should be secured by the arrangements of society; that as every member of the State must obey its laws and contribute to its resources, he should possess influence in the enactment of the former, and the disbursement of the latter; that manhood, not wealth, should constitute citizenship; that the Government should emanate immediately from the people, operate closely in accordance with their will, and be directly responsible to them;—these are no new doctrines. That in order to reduce this equitable theory to beneficial practice, Parliaments be chosen according to ancient usage—annually and by universal suffrage, nonage, insanity, and crime, being the only disqualifications for the exercise of the franchise; that to prevent bribery and intimidation, voting by ballot be adopted; that to obviate undue local influence the country be divided into equal electoral districts; and that, lest the choice of the people should be circumscribed, or the commonwealth deprived of the services of fitting men, property qualifications be no longer required, and the payment of members revived;—these are no novel demands. Deeply convinced that they are as inherently just and as practically important as ever, we have banded ourselves together to advocate and enforce them, with, we hope more than former efficiency and success.

Fifteen years have now elapsed since these principles and claims were partially recognized and conceded by the enactment of the Reform Bill. But the evils which the latter was professedly designed and generally expected to remedy still exist, almost untouched. The House of Commons represents the people only by a legal fiction, or by constitutional courtesy. The will of the nation and the acts of its rulers are notoriously at variance. Class influence is palpably prevalent in imperial legislation—the removal of an obnoxious law is the work of a generation—the overthrow of an unpopular institution is all but impossible. It was only by an enormous expenditure of money, energy, and time—by rousing the nation to its inmost centre—by agitating the country to its remotest extremities—that the Anti-corn-law League succeeded; and, even then, not less by a most alarming juncture of events than by their own unparalleled exertions. Measures have been passed when the floor of the House has been covered with petitions against them—while the prayer of the people for consideration of grievances has been rejected, and their leaders prosecuted. Ireland has been alternately coerced and cajoled till, through systematic misgovernment, she is periodically subjected to all the horrors of famine; while the industrious classes of England and Scotland have to bear, in addition to the fluctuations of a restricted commerce, the heavy burden of most oppressive and unequal taxation. Notwithstanding the obviously growing and loudly expressed aversion to ecclesiastical and military establishments, the former have been extended and the latter increased. In short, an utter want of sympathy between the governed and the governors is undeniably apparent, and the necessity of influence on the part of the former over the proceedings of the latter sensibly felt; and, therefore, without identifying ourselves with any other movement, or expressing an opinion upon any other question, whatever may be our views or sympathies, we would call the attention of those large bodies who are seeking to sever the alliance between Church and State—to secure the establishment of permanent peace—or even to abolish capital punishments—to the fact that their efforts must be all but hopeless, until the root of political mischief be removed, and power transferred from the few by whom it has been unjustly monopolized to the many to whom it rightfully belongs.

The disposition strongly evinced by Government to intermeddle with the social condition and popular institution of the country is a prominent feature of the times; and, without for a moment impugning the patriotic motives of those who support such interference, we cannot but call attention to the fact that an extension of the functions of the State can only be harmless or beneficial when the basis on which its authority rests is equally extended. Centralization must be infinitely mischievous, unless responsibility be direct and imperative. To trust an aristocratic Government with an increase of power and patronage, for whatever nominal purpose, would be worse than madness. Whenever the people shall become the State in fact as well as in theory, the case may, perhaps, be altered: till then such an experiment must be fearfully unjust and perilous.

We are resolved, then, Fellow-Countrymen, once more to unfurl the banner of political equality and justice. We ask the aid of all who agree with us, of whatever class or creed. We are determined to prosecute our work in a fitting spirit, and by right means. We repudiate alike violent deeds and violent words. The principles for which we contend are based upon the fact that "all men are brethren;" and we desire that our advocacy of those principles should be in the spirit of brotherhood. We appeal to the highest motives; we invoke the holiest feelings. Strong in the justice of our cause and the rectitude of our intentions, we indignantly reject all that would lower the moral position we assume. We wish our movement to be sustained by the wise and the good—by the friends of justice and freedom, whatever be their religious party or social condition. Throwing aside existing diversities, and forgetting past differences, we desire that our Alliance should, in its progress, present the promise and promote the prevalence of that blessed harmony which, on a world-wide scale, would follow its ultimate success.

By order of the committee,
THOMAS DICK, Secretary.
Office, 2, Bucklersbury, Cheapside.

THE CAXTON MONUMENT.

A meeting to promote the erection of a monument to commemorate the introduction of printing into England, and in honour of William Caxton, the earliest English printer, was held in the great room of the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi, on Saturday. The meeting was most numerously and respectably attended. Amongst the persons present were the following:—The Marquis of Northampton, Mr. Bancroft, the American minister, the Dean of Westminster, Sir John Boileau, Mr. Botfield, M.P., Mr. Macready, Messrs. J. S. Buckingham, S. C. Hall, J. Murray, T. Longman, Gray, G. Clowes, Macleise, R.A., E. H. Bailey, R.A., J. P. Collier, W. Jerdan, John Wilks, &c. &c.

Lord MORPETH took the chair. In opening the business of the meeting, his lordship referred to Mr. Milman as the sole originator of the movement. His lordship proceeded to say:—

The authentic details of William Caxton's career are not so numerous as its achievements are memorable, and its whole tenor honourable to himself and creditable to the country of which he was a citizen. Born in the Weald of Kent, among speakers of what he himself termed the broad and rude English of his day, he seems to have derived from their genuine British soil much of its racy and hearty spirit. At an early period of his life we find him transferred to a decidedly metropolitan existence, inasmuch as he became an inmate of the parish of St. Margaret, and a member of the Mercers' Company. But he was not confined either to rustic or to cockney life, for we find soon afterwards that Edward IV. made him his agent for agreeing upon a treaty of commerce with the Duke of Burgundy, and there have been assemblies in this country who would have been well pleased to connect the first English printer with some of the earliest practical exhibitions of the doctrines of free-trade. But passing to the topics which more peculiarly concern ourselves; it was as a sojourner at the Court of Bruges, and as a servant in the train of the English Margaret of Burgundy, that his attention must have been attracted by the progress of that memorable discovery in the noble states of Germany which has been calculated, beyond all other, to affect the condition of society and the destiny of our race. It was there that his ingenuity must have been exercised upon its practical details and mechanical contrivances, the difficulties and expensiveness of which we are perhaps at this advanced day hardly able to calculate, and it was there that he was first fired with the glorious ambition of transferring to his own country that copious spring of power and progress which he had tracked swelling up among the other nations of civilized Christendom. Whatever were his day dreams on this subject, he lived fully to realize them all; for we find him next, having returned to his own country, under the auspices of the brilliant Edward, honoured, it would seem, with the confidence of the accomplished Rivers, established within the actual precincts of the abbey of Westminster, and regularly dubbed "*Anglia prototypographus*." It is for antiquarians, and collectors of the books which Caxton printed, and Du Seuil has bound, to compile an authentic account of his publications; but I believe that no less than 64 works issued from the press of the earliest English printer [hear]. I believe he was the first person who gave that vogue which printing only can give to the works of Chaucer, whose services to the English language and literature he seems fully to have ascertained and appreciated; and I believe there is authority for stating that he was a party to erecting a monument to his remains. Besides the works of Chaucer, he also published those of Gower and of Lydgate; and I do not know how I can better illustrate his tendencies, and the disposition which, through all his life, seemed to have verged very strongly to chivalry and piety, than by mentioning what were his first and last publications. His first was the tale of "Troy Divine;" his last was "The Lives of the Holy Fathers," which he appears to have completed on the very day which closed his useful and pregnant life. Here, then, gentlemen, I leave him to your discriminating estimate, and to that suitable acknowledgement which, having been but too long deferred by many succeeding generations of his countrymen, it is now your privilege to offer. Many of our warriors, of our statesmen, of our sages, and of our poets, have not wanted the votive marble or the commemorative statue; but I would beg to remind you how much every one of these has been indebted to the invention of printing, of which, however, it is the main value and the first boast, that it does not confine its benefits to the distinguished few, to the favourites of fortune, or to the idols of society, but that it penetrates, and gladdens, and enriches the masses and the many [cheers]. It is true that Homer, Plato, Virgil, and Cicero attained their celebrity and their empire over the minds of men before the existence of printing-presses; but it is the newspaper on every breakfast table—it is Shakspere in every village library—it is the Bible in every cottage [cheers]—it is the English primer among the wilds of Australia, the English hymn-book on the streams of the Missouri—these are the products and the triumphs of printing [cheers]. It is possible that in our own day—I believe I need not talk of possibility, for it appears that in our own day the electric telegraph may make the operation of printing proceed at the rate of the lightning; but, by honouring the first introducer of that great invention, we are setting the best example to succeeding races to pay the debt which in its turn may become due to all the lengthened series of great discoveries [cheers]. I believe that ten years have only elapsed since the men of Germany amply redeemed the obligation which undoubtedly rested upon them of erecting a monument to the memory of Guttenberg, in his own city of Mayence, and I believe the genius of Thorwaldsen was enlisted to mould the statue of that great benefactor of his species. But I think it is full time that England should show she feels how much she owes of what she now is to the agency of the first English printer. It is, therefore, with no doubtful or hesitating feeling that I call upon the citizens of this great métropolis—upon the inhabitants of this flourishing kingdom—upon the subjects of this extended empire—to pay the debt which I conceive to be due to the merits and to the fame of William Caxton [cheers]. The exact details and design of the monument which your liberality may enable us to rear to give effect to this purpose had, perhaps, better be reserved for more mature and possibly more select consideration. It certainly appears to me that the suggestion contained in the letter of my reverend friend, Mr. Milman, of making the monument to the earliest printer indicative of purifying and illuminative influences, is a very happy one. But, at all events, we shall all agree that the proposed site for the monument is eminently appropriate. There let it stand close to the haunts of his youthful industry and of his life-long labour, associated with all the venerable relics of surrounding antiquity, and serving also to date the enterprising efforts of modern improvement. There let it stand close to that stream which floats upon its tide the mighty commerce

of the British empire, to whose infinite expansion he was called on to contribute—close to those halls of the legislature, which, by their ancient recollections, and by their modern splendours, are worthy of the country and of their own distinction—and, above all, close to that famed Abbey which has raised its requiems over so many immortal names—names which no one has done more than William Caxton to make the heir-looms of our British glory.

The noble lord resumed his seat amidst loud cheers. The DEAN OF WESTMINSTER then moved, and Mr. JOHN MURRAY seconded—

That it is desirable to have some national testimonial to commemorate the introduction of printing into England, and in honour of William Caxton, the earliest of English printers.

Mr. BANCROFT, the American Minister, moved the next resolution:—

That the proper site for any work of art commemorative of the introduction of printing into England, and in honour of William Caxton, would be at the west front of Westminster Abbey, at the end of the new street.

which was seconded by Mr. MILMAN. A general committee, consisting of upwards of seventy persons, was appointed, as well as a sub-committee to determine the composition of the work of art. Mr. H. CLAPP, of Lynn, Massachusetts, moved the following additional resolution which was carried:—

That the name of Caxton, through the wonderful power of his own art, is now the exclusive property of no one nation, but belongs to the whole family of nations. Therefore that means be taken to solicit and secure contributions towards the proposed monument from every quarter of the globe, and especially from the United States, where Caxton's name is a household word.

[A writer in the *Daily News*—"Show-em-up"—characterizes this new project as "a job." "The cut-and-dried way in which the scheme was promulgated could not but excite suspicion. A lamp-post and a water-spout situated at the west-end of Westminster Abbey!—as if a better approach was desired to the Dean's yard, and as if the pump in that little-known locality was considered an eyesore or a nuisance by those who live opposite. The whole thing reminded me of the scene in 'Guy Mannering,' where a search is made for a will by a sharp attorney who has the important document, signed, sealed, and delivered, safe and snug in his pocket." The proceedings of Saturday's meeting increased his suspicions. The third resolution proposed that the entire executive and administrative power should be confided to five individuals, three of whom are residents in St. Margaret's, but was modified at the call of the meeting. At the meeting there was scarcely a representative of the editors, authors, or even the leading printers of London! "Disgusted with the whole business, says the writer, "I give up in despair, as a paltry parish job, what I should have rejoiced to be able to regard as a great national demonstration."]

IRELAND.

THE POTATO DISEASE.
The potato blight still excites deep apprehension. At a meeting of the Irish Agricultural Society, on Thursday, it was stated that, although accounts still flow in to the council of the re-appearance of the disease, still "they think it right to declare that a vast number of persons report that in their districts the crops have a most flourishing appearance." The south appears in a better condition than the north, and, indeed, during the years of past disease the north anticipated the south in the appearance of the phenomena. So is it at present in the northern counties, and at once the cautious spirit of the inhabitants takes alarm, and looks to another crop. The *Whig* says that several specimens, examined by scientific men, exhibited all the *indicia* of the old blight, and the *Anglo-Celt* says that "not a spot in Cavan is free. The brown spots which appear on the stalk, just above the earth, when scraped, exhibit the whole interior in a state of rottenness." Very different are the statements of the *Irish Farmers' Gazette*, an agricultural paper of considerable authority. It contains returns from forty additional districts, in all which, save four, the crops are reported to be thoroughly sound. The proprietor and editor went to Carlow to examine the miles of blighted fields, and the conviction on his mind is, that there was not a trace of disease. As a proof of his opinion, he adds, that he would insure the whole crop in Ireland at 2 per cent.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.—The aspect of the country on Saturday, as represented by the newspapers, is the most cheering we have had for many a day. Deaths from starvation have ceased to be spoken of—attacks on property seem to have almost ceased, and the harvest prospects are most cheering.—*Daily News*.

The condition of Limerick and Clare continues most alarming—outrage and murder are of every day occurrence. Neither rank nor sex seem safe.

MR. O'CONNELL'S FUNERAL.—A correspondence between Mr. Smith O'Brien and Mr. O'Connell's elder sons has been the subject of much conversation in Dublin. According to a current rumour, it was the wish of Mr. O'Connell's family that the "Young Irelanders" should take no part as a body in the public funeral. In order to test the rumour, Mr. Smith O'Brien addressed a letter to Mr. John O'Connell, as "my dear O'Connell," asking "whether it is the family wish that those who dissented from the policy adopted by the Repeal Association during the last twelve months should attend the funeral." The reply was a cool "note of compliments," by Mr. Maurice O'Connell; who said that "the arrangements for the funeral having been intrusted to the Glasnevin Cemetery Committee and the Reverend Dr. Miley, the family leaves it entirely in their hands." Mr. O'Brien interpreted this, very naturally, into an intimation that "he should not attend the funeral."

THE DISSENSIONS IN THE REPEAL CAMP, which broke out before the removal of O'Connell, and to which his family and friends attribute the hastening of his death, are as bitter as ever; and there is not the slightest prospect that "old" and "young" Ireland will ever act cordially together. So much confesses honest "Tom Steele," who came forward on Monday week, at Conciliation-hall, to bid good bye to public life and political agitation. Looking at their dissensions he admits, half mournfully, half bitterly, that his countrymen are neither capable of gaining freedom, nor fitted to possess and enjoy it!

THE WEATHER, THE CROPS, AND THE SUPPLY OF FOOD.

At Mark-lane, on Monday, English wheat fell from 6s. to 8s. per quarter—foreign, from 4s. to 5s. The sellers were chiefly *speculators*.

THE CROPS.—The accounts from every part of the country are of the most encouraging description. During the last week several heavy showers of rain, accompanied in some parts with thunder, have given to vegetation a new vigour, and prepared the ground in excellent order for receiving turnip seed. The Lancashire papers all state that the wheat crop is expected to start into ear in the coming week: the spring corn is much improved by the late rains, the Swedish turnips are coming up very regularly, and the potato crop looks luxuriant. From Sussex we learn that the want of rain has put check to vegetation. The Lent corn is beginning to feel the want of moisture, but the wheat looks promising, and the potato never looked better. Near Horsham the disease is said to have shown itself in the early potatoes planted in frames, while those in the open ground are looking exceedingly healthy. The accounts from the Cambridge papers state that the crops in every part of that county are in a most promising state. In Somerset the hay harvest has commenced—the crops in general are very heavy, and will fully equal, if not exceed, last year's growth. There is not any appearance of the potato disease around Taunton, and around Bridgewater nothing can exceed the luxuriance of the crops. In Devon the hay harvest has commenced, and promises a good shear. The potato crop, notwithstanding reports of the appearance of the disease, is at present in a very healthy condition. From almost every county in England similar cheering accounts are received.

In Scotland, although the harvest does not promise to be so forward as in England, the temperature has been above the average seasons. Fallow and all early-sown autumn wheats are looking very luxuriant, and, with the present beautiful weather, will be in ear in the course of three weeks, which is earlier than the generality of seasons, and more so than could have been expected from the backward spring. The potato crop generally is looking well.

The most cheering accounts are given of the grain crops in Ireland. The soft and gentle showers now falling must prove highly beneficial to all products of the fields. There is an extraordinary increase in the cultivation of green crops this year over any other, chiefly turnips, parsnips, mangel wurzel, and carrots. The loss of the potato crop—even if it should fail extensively or altogether—would not, it is thought, produce any such disastrous consequences as the destruction of the crop of last year.

THE CROPS ON THE CONTINENT.—The accounts of the appearance of the crops on the Continent continue to be uniformly favourable. In Sicily the harvest has nearly terminated. Letters from the neighbourhood of Liege speak most favourably of the crops. All the accounts from France are very favourable. About Bologna the wheat promises well; but the maize is injured by the dryness of the weather. The wheat crops in Tunis and Tripoli are very good. The heat was excessive at Athens. Ripe barley was brought into the city on the 22nd of May. Throughout France there has been a general fall in prices.

CURE FOR THE POTATO DISEASE.—The *Reforme* states that M. Ratier, a farmer near Poictiers, has completely succeeded in preserving his potatoe crop from the prevailing malady by placing a handful of common salt on each portion of seed.

AMERICAN SUPPLIES.—A large fleet of American ships laden with corn and maize are off the harbour, waiting a wind to run in. Mr. Murphy has advices from the States of over one hundred corn-laden ships consigned to Cork Constitution.

THE AMERICAN MARKETS.—The accounts from the United States by the Britannia steam-packet, of the plentiful supplies of bread-stuffs coming forward are very encouraging. The *New York Advertiser* says:—The receipts by the Hudson river for the last few days have been very large, amounting for the last few weeks to about 150,000 barrels of flour, 115,000 of corn, and 30,000 of wheat. The total receipts, from the sailing of the Caledonia to the sailing of the Britannia, were 261,507 barrels of wheat flour, 54,311 bushels of wheat, and 221,113 bushels of corn. As little or none is going into store, these aggregates will represent pretty clearly the amount cleared off the market, though not exactly the sum of the sales, for the reason that a very material portion of these supplies have gone toward the fulfilment of contracts heretofore made in the sales for future delivery. The *Courier* states that the arrivals daily from the canal are very heavy, equalling 30,000 to 35,000 barrels a day for many consecutive days, and the accounts from the interior make it evident that the stocks are larger than was before generally estimated.

THE MAN WITH THE CARPET BAG.—Jacob Isaac Peretz, alias Baron Vander Pforte, a German, has been committed for trial on a charge of stealing silver spoons from Long's-hotel, London. For three years he has been faring sumptuously at the expense of hotelkeepers. His practice was to enter an hotel with a carpet bag filled with rubbish, and to state that the rest of his luggage would arrive as soon as it was cleared at the custom-house. At the end of a few days symptoms of failing credit would begin to appear, and then he would vanish, leaving his bag behind him as a legacy; but running off with all sorts of "unconsidered trifles." It is supposed that he was in the habit of visiting apartments in the night time, in the night dress of a woman, and picking up plunder. In one of his bags were found two pairs of ear-rings, a woman's "front," a woman's nightcap, and a woman's night dress; and parties robbed at hotels have told the police of the intrusion of a female through the night, whom they supposed to belong to the establishment.

MR. JOHN BIGGS, OF LEICESTER, having commenced an action against the Reform Club, to recover £500 promised him towards the cost of contesting South Leicestershire in 1841, the money has been paid, with interest and costs.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

METHODIST NEW CONNEXION ANNUAL CONFERENCE.—The fifty-first annual conference of the Methodist New Connexion held its sittings last week, at Hanley, in the Potteries. The conference consists of about eighty persons, representing about forty circuits; ministers and laymen in nearly equal proportions. The Rev. Thomas Allin, ex-president, took the chair *pro tem.* The credentials of the representatives were received, and the conference regularly constituted. The Rev. William Burrows was chosen president; Mr. E. W. Mackinnon, B.A., secretary; and the Rev. S. Hulme, corresponding secretary. The conference held two stated meetings for business during the week, at which the statistical and financial reports have been received. At the fiftieth annual meeting, held in Manchester last year, it was proposed to raise a jubilee fund of £20,000, in token of thankfulness to Almighty God. Several thousand pounds had just before been raised to pay off the libabilities which encumbered some of the connexional funds. Nevertheless, upwards of £12,000 of the jubilee fund has been subscribed during the year, and the remaining £8,000 are expected to be realized. £8,000 are to be applied to the relief of chapel trusts; £6,000 to the establishment of a theological institution for young ministers; £2,000 to home missionary operations; £1,000 to the liquidation of the Irish and Canadian Missionary Society's debt; £1,000 to the establishment of a foreign mission; and £2,000 in aid of the fund for assisting aged ministers, their widows, and orphans. Of the business proceedings of the Conference we are unable to say much; they take place with closed doors.—*Manchester Times.*

ORDINATION OF A MISSIONARY TO SEAMEN.—On Tuesday evening, May 25th, an interesting service was held at the Weigh-house Chapel, London (Mr. Binney's), when Mr. John Knox Stallybrass was ordained, in connexion with the British and Foreign Sailors' Society, as a missionary to seamen, especially those visiting Cronstadt, near St. Petersburg, the grand port of the Russian empire. Dr. Alliott commenced the service by reading the Scriptures and offering prayer; Mr. T. Timpson, Honorary Secretary to the Society, delivered the introductory discourse regarding the condition and claims of sailors, and the great sphere of labour to which the missionary was appointed. Mr. A. J. Morris, proposed the usual questions to the minister, and received his answers; the ordination prayer, with imposition of hands, was offered up by Dr. Jenkyn; the charge to the missionary was delivered by Mr. E. Stallybrass, formerly missionary to Siberia, who addressed his son with the utmost affection, fidelity and seriousness, as to his duties in the office of a minister of the Gospel, and chaplain to seamen. Mr. J. J. Freeman closed the service by prayer. The congregation was large on this occasion, and deeply interested in the service, which, it is believed, will be found to have induced many to become generous friends to the British and Foreign Sailors' Society. It will be considered that Mr. Stallybrass is peculiarly fitted for that important office, as he is a son of an esteemed missionary, born in Siberia, and familiar with the language of Russia, by which he will be found qualified to preach, not only to the English and American seamen, but even to the Russian, "the unsearchable riches of Christ."

MR. EDWIN HARTLAND, minister, of Chatteris, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the church at Aldermanbury Postern, to become their pastor, and will commence his labours among them on Sunday, July 11th.

GLEANINGS.

The greatest calamity that can befall a man is never to have had a calamity.—*Arbouin.*

READING.—No entertainment is so cheap as reading, nor any pleasure so lasting.—*Lady M. W. Montague.*

To most men, experience is like the stern-light of a ship, which illuminates only the track it has passed.—*Coleridge.*

THE PACHA OF DAMASCUS lately issued a proclamation to the women of that city, in which he enjoined them to be more strictly veiled when they went abroad, and declared that he would cut off the noses of all who disobeyed his orders.

A FACT.—The British authorities in Orissa bestow annually a grant of 36,000 rupees to support the temple of the destroyer, Juggernaut! [The Duke of Wellington has declared in Parliament that "Idolatry is the established religion of India!"]

THE ONE THOUSAND POUNDS PRIZE, for the best picture of the "Baptism of Christ in the River Jordan," has been awarded to Mr. John Wood.

The time fixed for the launch of the "Great Britain" is said to be the 30th instant, or the 1st of July.—*Banner of Ulster.*

We understand that measures are in progress for the erection of a statue of the late Dr. Chalmers, to be executed by Mr. Steell, from the admirable bust lately sculptured by him, and to be placed within the New College.—*Scotsman.*

A correspondent of the *Manchester Times* suggests to the committee of the Cobden testimonial the propriety of purchasing the estate of the celebrated John Hampden, in Buckinghamshire, which is now on sale, and presenting it to Mr. Cobden.

A RELIC OF THE IRISH PARLIAMENT has just been removed by death, at the age of ninety-seven; Mr. Nicholas Price, of Saintfield-house, county of Down; who enjoyed a pension of £1,500 for the extinction of his office as Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod in the Irish House of Commons.

In consequence of the great demand for cart-horses by railway contractors, those animals are forty per cent. dearer than they were a year ago.

"JACK," the well-known elephant of the Zoological Society, who had long amused the visitors to the Regent's-park Gardens, died on Sunday morning, after a short illness, produced, it is said by want of sufficient exercise and too much flesh. About two hours before his decease, he sank upon his haunches, and remained motionless, retaining his posture even after death.

THE STATE APARTMENTS AT WINDSOR CASTLE.—These apartments, which were closed for a fortnight (from the 24th ult.), in consequence of their being required for her Majesty's distinguished guests during the Ascot race week, have been opened again to the public on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, as heretofore. The round tower is also shown to the public on the same days, between the hours of eleven and four.

"THE BLACK LIST."—This is the title of a paper lately established in New Orleans, for the exclusive purpose of furnishing intelligence concerning the slave market, to advertise runaway slaves, &c. Among its advertisements is one of a runaway with but one leg! Such a paper will tell well in Europe for our "free institutions"—for our "refuge for the oppressed of all nations." The subjects of European despotism must surely fall in love at once with our free democracy.—*Hampshire Herald* (American).

THE GASTRONOMIC REGENERATOR.—At a dinner given to M. Soyer, the great scientific cook, on Tuesday, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, to testify to his exertions on behalf of the Irish poor, he stated that from 20,000 to 25,000 persons are daily supplied with his soup at the central kitchen in Dublin, and also that he has discovered a cheap mode of preserving fish for food for six months, without deteriorating its wholesomeness. He has invented bread, made thirty per cent. cheaper than by the ordinary method, which is good for fourteen days.

SIX THOUSAND LIVE QUAILS have been brought from Alexandria for sale in the London markets; and several hundred hampers of green peas have come over from France.

In several of the congressional districts in Virginia the contest has been remarkably close. In one of the counties the Whig candidate for the legislature voted for his opponent, who did not vote either way. It turns out that the democrat was elected by one majority.—*Bolton Atlas.*

A gentleman advertises in the *Post* for a wife. What young lady will not suit? He only requires sweetness of disposition, suavity of manners, refined taste and education, physical charms, and intellectual attributes.

The *Suffolk Chronicle* says:—In 1845, the wheat was in ear on 14th June; 1846, on 1st June; 1847, 31st May, on the same locality, and with the same variety of wheat.

BEAUTY.—It is an old remark, that the most beautiful women are not always the most fascinating. It may be added, we fear, that they are seldom so. The reason is obvious. They are apt to rely too much on their beauty; or to give themselves too many airs. Mere beauty ever was, and ever will be, but a secondary thing, except with fools. The most fascinating women are those that can most enrich the every-day moments of existence. In a particular and attaching sense, they are those that can partake our pleasures and our pains in the liveliest and most devoted manner. Beauty is little without this. With it she is indeed triumphant.—*Leigh Hunt's Men, Women, and Books.*

ANECDOTES OF O'CONNELL.—O'Connell was a zealous, perhaps we should say, a bigoted Catholic. He performed the prescribed duties of his religion rigidly and laboriously, but not ostentatiously. We remember having heard on good authority a singular instance in which this spirit was shown to the extent of superstition. A member of Parliament arriving one dreary frosty winter morning at Canterbury, beheld in the grey light a figure, with which he thought he was familiar, issuing muffled up from the cathedral. A further observation convinced him that it was Daniel O'Connell. Prompted by curiosity, he made inquiry of the beadle regarding this phenomenon, who stated that the gentleman who had just gone forth had given him a sovereign to be permitted to stay all night by the tomb of Thomas A'Becket. It was his fortune once, in a Liverpool steamer, to encounter a tipsy Orangeman, who determined to make the voyage uneasy to him by a harrassing series of attacks. O'Connell, after having borne with this for a while, turned his very expressive eye to the man, and said, "I begin now to remember something of you." "Yes," said the Orangeman, "I've given you cause to remember me, maybe—maybe I'll give you more, Mr. O'Connell, before I have done with you." "Yes, sure enough," said the orator, mildly and quietly, "I now recollect perfectly; you're the very man I got off from the last Kilkenny assizes when you were tried for horse stealing—more blame to me." The tormentor was at once extinguished. It was all in vain that he offered explanations, and references of undoubted respectability—his character was fixed for that voyage.

HARICOT BEANS.—A correspondent of the *Times* pleads for the merits of haricot beans, and to their claim to become established in this country as a general dish. He says, "I have used them in my family daily for the last three months in the place of potatoes, with the view of giving them a fair trial; and my conviction is, that they are in every respect the most wholesome and nutritious vegetable that is to be procured. My family reckons nine in number, of different ages; and although constitutionally of weak digestion, we have never found them disagree, whether eaten at dinner or (as we often have them, being very fond of them) for supper. As a question of economy, I reckon haricot beans to cost just half as much as potatoes, at the present price of each; if generally cultivated, I should imagine that they might be supplied much cheaper. Many persons to whom I have recommended the bean I have found quite ignorant of the existence of such an article of food.

RESULTS OF THE GALLOWS-ABOLITION.—It is now nearly one year since the State of Michigan enacted the total abolition of capital punishment. We cannot claim as yet that a sufficient period of time has elapsed to warrant us in citing that law and the experience under it, in proof of our position, that the sanctity of life is equally respected where the death penalty is totally abolished, as where it is exacted with the greatest rigour. This much we are warranted in asserting already, that thus far the humane reform has given no occasion for regret in Michigan; and we have the firm belief it is only because sufficient time has not elapsed, that we are prevented from producing the testimony of her criminal records to speak unequivocally and persuasively in the advocacy of our cause.—*New York Society for the Abolition of Capital Punishment.*

Parliamentary returns show that during the session of 1846 the House of Commons sat 140 days, and that there were 76 divisions on public matters, 61 before, and 15 after, midnight.

It is stated that as soon as the Newcastle and Berwick Railway is opened, the whole distance between Edinburgh and London by express trains will be accomplished in thirteen hours.

A convention has been signed by the French and British governments, for the transmission of the mails from Paris to London, and vice versa, via Boulogne instead of Calais.

AFRICAN EXHIBITION.—Under the above title there are now exhibiting, at the Egyptian-hall, Piccadilly, five specimens of the Bosjems, or bush tribe, from South Africa. On the score of novelty, the exhibition is certainly interesting. Their language—for, although more like the chattering of monkeys than anything else, it may be called such—is of an extraordinary kind, every alternate sound, or word, being a clear and distinct click, closely resembling the sound made by coachmen to increase a horse's pace. Of this language the exhibitor himself can make out but very little, only being able to understand their meaning by the help of dumb show, of which they make continual use to strangers, but not, it would seem, among themselves. They are placed on a raised stage, the back and sides of which are painted to represent African scenery; and here the Bosjems sit smoking and chattering, taking not the slightest notice of the spectators, unless they have money given them: when they seize the hand of the giver, and eagerly kiss it, they do also to those they know. They appear not the least out of their element; on the contrary, such is their indifference to all around them, and their attention to themselves alone, that, with the aid of the scenery, albeit crude enough in execution, we might almost imagine we saw them in their native wilds.

ANECDOTE OF DR. CHALMERS.—There was a little old woman in the city of Glasgow who much admired Dr. Chalmers, and diligently attended all his sermons, on Sundays and week-days, whether they were doctrinal or practical, theological or astronomical. One day she came home in great perplexity. Dr. Chalmers had dwelt much on a "moral lever," with which he wished to uplift human nature. What a "moral lever" was the little old woman could not divine. A friend took the poker, and placed it on the bars of the grate, trying to realize the ideal, and make the imagery palpable. The little old woman paused—mused—and at last the fire burned. She bethought of the indiginity done to the pulpit, the subject, the doctor, and herself, by so gross a materialization of the "moral lever," and, bursting with indignation, she asked, "Do you mean to tell me that Dr. Chalmers would preach a half hour about a poker?"—*Manchester Examiner.*

THE NEGRO PEW.—Dr. Samuel H. Cox, who took such a prominent part in the Evangelical Alliance, has a negro pew in his church. He said, I understand, when recently in England, that all his congregation sat promiscuously under the same roof, &c., by which many understood that there was no distinction in seats between the white and coloured people. The fact is, coloured people are fenced off from the rest of the congregation, in his, and in most of the churches, as much as the sheep and calves are separated at Smithfield. A few years since, my brother, Mr. Arthur Tappan, who was at the time a member of Dr. Cox's church and President of the American Anti-slavery Society, invited the Rev. T. E. Cornish, a coloured minister of irreproachable character, to sit in his pew one Sunday morning. Mr. C. is rather light in his complexion. Offence was taken; the trustees held a meeting on the subject, and a sort of "holy horror" pervaded the assembly. Such an act cannot now be done in any of the congregations, of any denomination (with the exception above-named), without exciting opposition, wrath, and violence. Dr. Cox, not long ago, was one of a committee to go to a neighbouring town, to remonstrate with a church that contemplated allowing people to sit irrespective of colour. And yet Drs. Cox, Patton, &c., when in England, associate with Messrs. Wardlaw, James, &c., &c., as anti-slavery men, as those who treat others irrespective of colour, and profess to be abolitionists of a sound, discreet sort. I mention these things that you may have a correct view of the practices here, even in churches whose ministers when abroad would wish to be considered as above the mean prejudice against colour."—*Letter from Lewis Tappan, dated New York, March 26, 1847.*

MARRIAGES.

June 8, at the Baptist Chapel, Bishops Stortford, by the pastor, Mr. B. Hodgkins, Mr. GEORGE FAIRCLOTH, gardener, to BETSY CARTER, both of Bishops Stortford.

June 8, at the Independent Chapel, George-street, Croydon, Mr. JOHN GRAY, bookseller, to Miss ARIS, both of Croydon.

June 8, at the Independent Chapel, Pontefract, by Mr. W. Pulsford, Mr. J. PULSFORD, of Hull, minister, to ALICE HURST, only daughter of Francis BARKER, Esq., of Castle-lodge, Pontefract.

June 9, at the Adelphi Chapel, Hackney-road, by W. B. Collyer, D. L. D., Mr. I. VALE MUMMERY, of Queen-street Chapel, Ratcliffe, minister, to AMELIA, second daughter of T. G. WILLIAMS, Esq., of Hackney-road.

June 9, at Zion Chapel, Kendal, ISAAC WILSON, Esq., of Middleborough-on-Tees, to ANNA DOROTHY, youngest daughter of Robert BENSON, Esq., of Park-side, near Kendal.

June 9, at Hanover-street Chapel, Halifax, by Mr. R. Henshaw, Mr. JAMES WOOLLEY, builder, Hunslet, to Miss JANE BOTTOMLEY, of Brightside.

June 9, at Littlemoor Chapel, Glossop, Mr. SAMUEL ROBINSON, grocer, of Glossop, to HANNAH, youngest daughter of the late Mr. SAMUEL COLLIER, grocer and corn dealer, of the same place.

June 10, at Castle-square Chapel, Wisbech, by the pastor, Mr. W. Holmes, Mr. JAMES BUNN, to JANE, widow of the late Captain SMITH, both of Wisbech St. Peters.

June 10, at the Friends' Meeting-house, Wakefield, J. BRIGHT, Esq., M.P., of Rochdale, to MARGARET ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of the late W. LEATHAM, Esq., banker, Wakefield.

June 10, at the Independent Chapel, Castle-street, Reading, by Mr. S. Curwen, minister, Mr. EBENEZER LIEBRECHT, to Miss E. GRANT, of Lutford, Lincolnshire.

DEATHS.

June 5, while on a visit at Horsey, aged 74, Mrs. R. MOORE, of Norlington-cottage, Ryde, Isle of Wight, relict of the late Dr. Moore, of Lewes, Sussex. Her end was peace.

June 5, at Bridgen, Glamorganshire, in the 65th year of his age, Mr. WILLIAM JONES, the eminent Welsh Independent minister. Mr. Jones was the author of a large and excellent Theological Dictionary, as well as a masterly Defence of the Deity of Christ. He preached three times the Sabbath before his death, and after an illness of five days he entered his eternal rest.

June 10, at Peckham-rye, Mr. ALFRED SADGROVE, aged 35 years, late of the firm of William and Alfred Sadgrove, of Eldon-street, Finsbury.

June 11, aged 46, FRANCIS ABIJAH THORESBY, of Liverpool, eldest son of the late Mr. Francis Thoresby, of Bristol, minister.

Lately, aged 67, after a long illness, borne with fortitude, calmness and resignation, JOHN RICHARDS, Esq., of Wassell-grove, Worcester-shire, and of Calvert's-buildings, Southwark, formerly high sheriff for the county of Worcester, and member in two successive Parliaments for the borough of Knaresborough.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Friday, June 11.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

BARRATT, JOHN CHARLES, 368, Strand, picture dealer.

STALEY, GEORGE, Hulme, provision shopkeeper.

BANKRUPTES.

ACKLING, THOMAS, late of Highworth, but now of Llangenick, corn dealer, June 25, July 27: solicitors, Mr. J. Chamberlen, Highworth; and Mr. A. E. Nash, Bristol.

ADAMS, ROBERT, and BANKS, THOMAS, Liverpool, cattle salesmen, June 25, July 16: solicitors, Messrs. Chester and Co., Staple-inn, London; and Messrs. Mallaby and Townsend, Liverpool.

BLACKMORE, PHILIP, 8, Little James-street, Bedford-row, saddler, June 22, July 23: solicitors, Messrs. Kingdom and Shephard, 16, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street.

COCKING, SAMUEL, of Torquay, timber merchant, June 24, July 15: solicitors, Mr. G. W. Turner, Exeter, and Mr. H. Coward, 14, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

COOKE, WILLIAM, TOMLIN, Aylsham, Norfolk, ironmonger, June 17, July 26: solicitors, Messrs. Treherne and Co., Barge-yard.

ELLIOTT, JOSEPH, late of Cold Ashby, Northamptonshire, but now of Daventry, victualler, June 24, July 23: solicitors, Mr. Weller, 8, King's-road, Bedford-row; and Mr. G. Pell, jun., Welford and Northampton.

EVANS, THOMAS, of Bath and Bristol, stockbroker, June 25, July 27: solicitors, Mr. Parker, New-inn, Strand; and Mr. Thurston, Thornbury.

GAP, JOHN, 19, Duke-street, Manchester-square, livery-stable keeper, June 18, July 21: solicitors, Messrs. Parker and Co., Raymondbuildings, Gray's-inn.

HADAY, RICHARD, Milk-street, Cheapside, silk warehouseman, June 18, July 21: solicitors, Messrs. Surr and Grimble, Lombard-street.

HIND, JOHN, and **WARBUCK, ROGER**, Liverpool, curriers, June 22, July 16: solicitors, Messrs. Cornthwaite and Co., Old Jewry-chambers, London; and Mr. C. Pemberton, Liverpool.

JONES, EDWARD, jun., of Watling-street, City, and of Hertford, paper manufacturer, June 23, July 23: solicitors, Mr. J. Bennett, 5a, Bloomsbury-square.

LAWIS, WILLIAM, Plymouth grocer, June 24, July 14: solicitors, Mr. H. Cross, Plymouth; Mr. J. H. Terrell, Exeter; and Messrs. Gregory and Co., Bedford-row, London.

LUND, ROBERT, Blackburn, cotton spinner, June 25, July 16: solicitors, Messrs. Milne and Co., Temple, London; Messrs. Neville and Ainsworth, Blackburn; and Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester.

MAUDE, JOHN, MINTHORPE, late of Rotherhithe, cement manufacturer, June 22, July 23: solicitors, Messrs. Marten and Co., Mincing-lane.

MARSDON, WILLIAM, Brompton, Kent, grocer, June 17, July 26: solicitors, Messrs. Hill and Matthews, St. Mary-axe.

SADLER, THOMAS, Birmingham, licensed victualler, June 26, July 27: solicitor, Mr. G. Harding, Birmingham.

SIMES, WILLIAM, Liverpool, block maker, June 24, July 16: solicitors, Messrs. Cornthwaite and Co., Old Jewry-chambers; and Mr. C. Pemberton, Liverpool.

STRINGER, JOHN, Kingston-upon-Hull, draper, June 23, July 28: solicitors, Messrs. Hardwick and Co., Weavers-hall, London; and Messrs. England and Shackles, Hull.

THOMAS, EVAN, Aldersgate-street, draper, June 17, July 26: solicitors, Messrs. Linklaters, Leadenhall-street.

WALFORD, JOHN, Stamford, innkeeper, June 25, July 23: solicitors, Messrs. Thompson and Co., Stamford.

WESTON, JAMES, RICKETTS, Southampton, auctioneer, June 17, July 26: solicitor, Mr. Fitch, Southampton-street, Bloomsbury.

WILSON, THOMAS, Bradford, boot maker, June 24, July 22: solicitors, Messrs. Jones and Co., John-street, Bedford-row, London; and Messrs. Harle and Clark, Leeds.

WOODS, GEORGE, Mansfield, salesman, June 25, July 16: solicitors, Mr. Moss, Sergeant's-inn, Fleet-street, London; and Mr. Branson, Sheffield.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

DICK, GEORGE C. and Co., Glasgow, merchants, June 16, July 7.

LANG, R. BERT, Glasgow, tavern keeper, June 18, July 12.

MCQUEEN, ROBERT, Myres, Renfrew, farmer, June 17, July 13.

PATRICK, HUGH, William, Glasgow, wine merchant, June 17, July 15.

DIVIDENDS.

John George Evison, Liverpool, bookkeeper, first div. of 6s. 6d.; at 19, South Castle-street, Liverpool, any Thursday—Isaac Sansome, Coventry, ribbon manufacturer, first div. of 2s. 4d.; at 7, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, any Tuesday before July 31—John Egerton Webster, Tatton Hall, fourth div. of 2s.; at 19, South Castle-street, Liverpool, any Thursday—Benjamin Harrison Hunter, Liverpool, merchant, second div. of 1d.; at 19, South Castle-street, Liverpool, any Thursday.

Tuesday, June 15.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.
SECKEL, MEYER ABRAHAM, and **BANNERMAN, HILLERY JOHN**, 19, Duke-street, Aldgate, watch manufacturers.

BANKRUPTS.

ATKINSON, ANTHONY, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, share broker, June 18, July 23: solicitors, Mr. Baker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Messrs. Crosby and Co., Church-court, Old Jewry, London; and Mr. J. T. Hoyle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

ATKINSON, WILLIAM, FREDERICK, Wakefield, wool stapler, June 29, August 5: solicitors, Messrs. Jacques and Co., Ely-place, London; and Mr. Greaves, Leeds.

BRONTER, WILLIAM, Tranmere, Cheshire, joiner, June 25, July 16: solicitors, Messrs. Gregory and Co., Bedford-row, London; and Messrs. Fletcher and Hull, Liverpool.

CHURCHES, WILLIAM, GIDEON, 9, Basinghall-street, Blackwell-hall street, June 23, July 21: solicitors, Messrs. Dickson and Overbury, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.

DUNLOP, ARCHIBALD, 52, Lower Belgrave-place, scrivener, June 21, July 21: solicitors, Messrs. Wathen and Phillips, Basinghall-street.

DIRCKS, HENRY, Winsley-street, Oxford-street, manufacturer of malt and hop extract, June 21, July 28: solicitors, Messrs. J. and C. Robinson, Queen-street-place.

EDMUND, EDWARD, Lowndes-street, Knightsbridge, hosier, June 25, July 28: solicitors, Messrs. Reed, Langford, and Marsden, Friday-street, Cheapside.

EVANS, JOHN, 2, Pump-row, Old-street, paper stainer, June 22, July 27: solicitor, Mr. T. Weeks, 10, Tokenhouse-yard.

GILBERT, GEORGE, Folkestone, leather cutter, June 22, July 21: solicitor, Mr. Stennig, 50a, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

GILMAN, CHARLES, 4, Canal-terrace, Camden-town, June 22, July 27: solicitors, Messrs. Lacy and Co., New Bridge-street.

JAGGER, THOMAS, Birkenhead, victualler, June 25, July 16: solicitors, Messrs. Gregory and Co., Bedford-row, London; and Messrs. Fletcher and Hull, Liverpool.

KEMP, JOHN FOX, Uxbridge, grocer, June 24, July 28: solicitors, Messrs. Bell and Co., Bow Church-yard, Cheapside.

LORD, EDMUND, Rochdale, flannel manufacturer, June 29, July 20: solicitors, Mr. R. Hunt, Rochdale; and Messrs. Cragg and Jeyses, Bedford-row, London.

NAYLOR, JOSEPH, Cleckheaton, Yorkshire, clock maker, July 1, August 3: solicitors, Messrs. Jones and Co., John-street, Bedford-row, London; and Messrs. Harle and Clarke, Leeds.

ROBINSON, JAMES, Manchester (trading under the name of Edward Robinson), perfumer, July 1, 16: solicitors, Mr. J. Abbott, Charlotte-street, Bedford-square, London; and Messrs. Atkinson and Co., Manchester.

ROLLINGS, JAMES, Landport, stay manufacturer, June 25, July 28: solicitors, Messrs. Loft, Potter, and Co., King-street, Cheapside.

SHEPHERD, JOHN LONGMAN, Basinghall-street, tavern keeper, June 29, July 27: solicitor, Mr. W. K. Buchanan, 8, Basinghall-street.

SHIPMAN, THOMAS, jun., **BIRKS, WILLIAM**, and **SHIPMAN, BENJAMIN**, Nottingham, lace manufacturers, June 18, July 16: solicitor, Mr. Wells, Nottingham.

THOMAS, ABRAHAM, Liverpool, cart owner, June 25, July 23: solicitors, Messrs. Cornthwaite and Co., Old Jewry-chambers, London; and Mr. C. Pemberton, Liverpool.

WORSLEY, WILLIAM, Forebridge, Staffordshire, dealer in stone, June 23, July 15: solicitor, Mr. Bowen, Stafford.

WALFORD, JOHN, Stamford, innkeeper, June 25, July 23: solicitors, Messrs. Thompson and Co., Stamford.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ALEXANDER, JAMES, and Co., Maybole, tailors, June 19, July 10.

CAMERON, JOHN, Edinburgh, grocer, June 21, July 12.

FINDLBY, PETER, Glasgow, general linen merchant, June 18, July 9.

HENDERSON, ROBERT JOHN, Glasgow, cabinet makers, June 21, July 12.

HUTCHINSON, WILLIAM, and Co., Glasgow, timber merchants, June 18, July 16.

HUNTER, ROBERT, Leith, earthenware manufacturer, June 21, July 15.

LESLIE, ANDREW, Aberdeen, merchant, June 23, July 14.

M'GOWN, ROBERT, Glasgow, tavern-keeper, June 21, July 12.

SYMINGTON, GEORGE, Paisley, ironmonger, June 21 July 12.

WALKER, ANDREW, and Co., Tillicoultry, manufacturers, June 22, July 20.

DIVIDENDS.

Michael John Stone, Abingdon, grocer, first div. of 10s.; at 25, Coleman-street, London, any Wednesday—John Elliott, Chichester, builder, first div. of 7s. 3d.; at 2, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—James Bickerton, Castle-street, Southwark, hat manufacturer, second div. of 2s. 8d.; at 2, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—Francis Shattock, Portsea, grocer, second div. of 6d.; at 2, Basinghall-street, any Wednesday—Thomas Maginnis Taylor, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant, first div. of 6d.; at 111, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, any Saturday.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

COCKING, SAMUEL, of Torquay, timber merchant, June 24, July 15: solicitors, Mr. G. W. Turner, Exeter, and Mr. H. Coward, 14, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

COOKE, WILLIAM, TOMLIN, Aylsham, Norfolk, ironmonger, June 17, July 26: solicitors, Messrs. Treherne and Co., Barge-yard.

ELLIOTT, JOSEPH, late of Cold Ashby, Northamptonshire, but now of Daventry, victualler, June 24, July 23: solicitors, Mr. Weller, 8, King's-road, Bedford-row; and Mr. G. Pell, jun., Welford and Northampton.

EVANS, THOMAS, of Bath and Bristol, stockbroker, June 25, July 27: solicitors, Mr. Parker, New-inn, Strand; and Mr. Thurston, Thornbury.

GAP, JOHN, 19, Duke-street, Manchester-square, livery-stable keeper, June 18, July 21: solicitors, Messrs. Parker and Co., Raymondbuildings, Gray's-inn.

HADAY, RICHARD, Milk-street, Cheapside, silk warehouseman, June 18, July 21: solicitors, Messrs. Surr and Grimble, Lombard-street.

HIND, JOHN, and **WARBUCK, ROGER**, Liverpool, curriers, June 22, July 16: solicitors, Messrs. Cornthwaite and Co., Old Jewry-chambers, London; and Mr. C. Pemberton, Liverpool.

JONES, EDWARD, jun., of Watling-street, City, and of Hertford, paper manufacturer, June 23, July 23: solicitors, Mr. J. Bennett, 5a, Bloomsbury-square.

LAWIS, WILLIAM, Plymouth grocer, June 24, July 14: solicitors, Mr. H. Cross, Plymouth; Mr. J. H. Terrell, Exeter; and Messrs. Gregory and Co., Bedford-row, London.

LUND, ROBERT, Blackburn, cotton spinner, June 25, July 16: solicitors, Messrs. Milne and Co., Temple, London; Messrs. Neville and Ainsworth, Blackburn; and Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester.

MAUDE, JOHN, MINTHORPE, late of Rotherhithe, cement manufacturer, June 22, July 23: solicitors, Messrs. Marten and Co., Mincing-lane.

MARSDON, WILLIAM, Brompton, Kent, grocer, June 17, July 26: solicitors, Messrs. Hill and Matthews, St. Mary-axe.

SADLER, THOMAS, Birmingham, licensed victualler, June 26, July 27: solicitor, Mr. G. Harding, Birmingham.

SIMES, WILLIAM, Liverpool, block maker, June 24, July 16: solicitors, Messrs. Cornthwaite and Co., Old Jewry-chambers; and Mr. C. Pemberton, Liverpool.

STRINGER, JOHN, Kingston-upon-Hull, draper, June 23, July 28: solicitors, Messrs. Hardwick and Co., Weavers-hall, London; and Messrs. England and Shackles, Hull.

THOMAS, EVAN, Aldersgate-street, draper, June 17, July 26: solicitors, Messrs. Jones and Co., John-street, Bedford-row, London; and Messrs. Harle and Clark, Leeds.

WOODS, GEORGE, Mansfield, salesman, June 25, July 16: solicitors, Mr. Moss, Sergeant's-inn, Fleet-street, London; and Mr. Branson, Sheffield.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

COCKING, SAMUEL, of Torquay, timber merchant, June 24, July 15: solicitors, Mr. G. W. Turner, Exeter, and Mr. H. Coward, 14, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

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LAWIS, WILLIAM, Plymouth grocer, June 24, July 14: solicitors, Mr. H. Cross, Plymouth; Mr. J. H. Terrell, Exeter; and Messrs. Gregory and Co., Bedford-row, London.

THE GENERAL LIFE and FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Established 1837.

Empowered by Special Acts of Parliament, 3d Vict., c. xx., and 10 Vict., c. 1.
62, King William-street, London; and 21, St. David-street, Edinburgh.

Capital, ONE MILLION.

DIRECTORS.

George Bousfield, Esq. S. Morton Peto, Esq.
Thomas Challis, Esq., and Ald. Thomas Piper, Esq.
Jacob G. Cope, Esq. Thomas B. Simpson, Esq.
John Dixon, Esq. Edward Smith, Esq.
Joseph Fletcher, Esq. Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P.
Richard Hollier, Esq. John Wilks, Esq.
Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P. Edward Wilson, Esq.

TABLE, No. I.

WITHOUT PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.

Premiums for the Assurance of £100, payable at Death.

20	30	40	50	60
£ s. d.				
1 12 0	2 1 5	2 15 7	4 1 1	6 5 3

TABLE, No. II.

WITH PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.

20	30	40	50	60
£ s. d.				
1 18 2	2 8 5	3 3 7	4 10 3	6 13 10

Assurances on Joint Lives and Survivorships, Deferred Annuities, and Endowments for Children, are granted, and Reversions and Life Interests are purchased on liberal terms.

The following are among the distinctive features of the Company:

1. One-tenth of the entire profits is appropriated, by the Deed of Settlement, to reducing the premiums payable for assuring the lives of Dissenting and Methodist Ministers, or in other ways similarly beneficial to their families.

2. The lowest rate of Premium consistent with security, and the payment of Policies, guaranteed by a capital of One Million.

3. Two Tables of Premiums, the one giving to the assured two-thirds of the profits of this department of the Company's business.

4. A table of Premiums for Policies, payable at the age of 60, or previously in the event of death; specially suitable to professional men of all classes.

5. Policies in the mutual branch immediately interested in the profits of the Company, and such profits at the option of the assured, to be received in cash, applied to the reduction of premiums, or added in reversionary value to the sum assured.

6. Premiums may be paid Annually, Half-yearly, or Quarterly, in limited number of payments, or in one sum.

7. Every facility given, on moderate terms, to persons going beyond the prescribed limits of their Policy.

8. Loans granted on Life Policies which have been five years in force, and have attained the value of £300.

9. No entrance-fee required.

Loans granted on personal security, and the deposit of a Life Policy to be effected by the borrower.

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

1, Princes-street, Bank, London.

Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4th Vict., cap. ix.

ADVANTAGES OF THIS INSTITUTION.

MUTUAL ASSURANCE BRANCH.

Complete Security afforded to the Assured by means of an ample subscribed capital, and the large fund accumulated from the premiums on upwards of 6,000 Policies.

Half the amount only of the annual premium required during the first five years, the remaining half premiums being paid out of the profits, which, after five years, will be annually divided among the Assured.

PROPRIETARY BRANCH.

The lowest rates consistent with security to the Assured.

An increasing scale of premiums, peculiarly adapted to cases where assurances are effected for the purpose of securing Loans or Debts.

Half-credit rates of premium, whereby credit is given for half the amount of premium for seven years, to be then paid off, or remain a charge upon the Policy, at the option of the holder.

EXTRACTS FROM THE TABLES.

Annual Premiums required for an Assurance of £100 for the whole Term of Life.

MUTUAL ASSURANCE BRANCH.			PROPRIETARY BRANCH.		
Age.	Half Premium first five years.	Whole Premium after five years.	Age.	Half Premium first seven years.	Whole Premium after seven years.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1 0 0	2 0 0	20	0 18 0	1 16 0
25	1 2 2	2 4 4	25	0 19 7	1 19 2
30	1 4 11	2 9 10	30	1 1 9	2 3 6
35	1 8 6	2 17 0	35	1 4 11	2 9 10
40	1 13 3	3 6 6	40	1 9 2	2 18 4
45	1 19 6	3 19 0	45	1 14 10	3 9 8
50	2 7 9	4 15 6	50	2 2 6	4 5 0
55	2 18 10	5 17 8	55	2 12 9	5 5 6

PETER MORRISON, Resident Director.

STEPHENS' CONCENTRATED and SOLUBLE INK POWDERS, which contain the chief elementary parts, in a dry state, of his various well-known inks or writing fluids, yet so readily soluble in water, that by putting the contents of a paper packet into a bottle, and adding to it the quantity of water indicated on the directions, it is ready for immediate use. The economy of this article in carriage from its reduced bulk may be estimated when it is considered that one part of the powders will make nearly 20 times its weight and bulk of liquid ink.

The Black Ink Powder is sold in packages at 1d., 6d., and 1s. 6d. each, or six of the smallest in one packet at 6d.

The Blue Black and Unchangeable Blue, in packages at 1d., 9d., and 2s. each, or six of the smallest in one packet at 9d.

Samples of the smaller packets can be sent by post to those who may wish to make a trial of them.

Prepared and sold by HENRY STEPHENS, inventor and proprietor of the Writing Fluids, 54, Stamford-street, Blackfriars-road London, and by booksellers and stationers throughout the kingdom.

MUDIE'S SELECT LIBRARY,
28, Upper King-street, Bloomsbury-square.

This Library comprises the best and newest works in every department of Literature, with all the Quarterly and Monthly Periodicals.

Single Subscription.

Seven Shillings per Quarter, One Guinea per Annum.

Family and Country Subscription.

Two, Three, Five, or Ten Guineas per Annum, according to the number of volumes required.

Newspapers regularly supplied.—Stationery of every Description.

SMITH'S PATENT ADHESIVE ENVELOPES,
requiring neither Wax or Wafer. Embossed with Initials, Name, Arms, Crests, &c., &c. Manufactory, 42, Rathbone-place, London.

The demand for these Envelopes is so great, and they are now highly appreciated by noblemen, gentlemen, the managers of public institutions, &c., that several unprincipled persons are offering for sale a worthless imitation, and others are representing them—elves to be "Agents for the sale of Smith's Patent Adhesive Envelopes," whereas J. SMITH has no appointed Agents. To prevent imposition, therefore, the Public are respectfully requested to observe, that every Envelope bears the inscription, "Smith's Patent Adhesive, 42, Rathbone-place, London;" all others are fraudulent imitations.

N.B. For India communication these Envelopes are invaluable. A large assortment of Elegant and Novel Patterns for Ladies. Stationery of every description. Engraving, Printing, &c., &c.

SEA ISLAND HOSIERY.—Another extensive arrival has renewed the assortment of these famous Stockings. The elastic perfection of fitting, and their beautiful fresh-colour and enduring quality, are manufactured by GEORGE SMITH only, from the same cotton which established the high reputation of his "Sea Island Long Clothes and Calicoes." The Stock consists of White, Brown, and permanent Black, with plain or lace ankles, particular sizes made to order. Every Stocking bears his name and address woven in the top, and will be replaced should it fail in wear. 32, Ludgate-hill, late Rundell and Bridge's. Shawls, Silks, Mantles, Dresses, Table Linen, Swiss Curtains, &c. Prices marked in plain figures.

MOURNING.

THE CACHMERE ROYAL.—This beautiful fabric, manufactured from the purest material, of a soft and durable texture, especially adapted for mourning attire, is now superseding all other descriptions of cloth. Price from 2s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. a yard, very wide. Sole Agent for the City, R. W. BECKLEY, Mourning Warehouse, 37, Ludgate-street, St. Paul's, nearly opposite Everingtons.

THE COALBROOKDALE STOVES and FENDERS.—like the other Castings of this celebrated Foundry, are distinguished by boldness and grace of Design, great accuracy of Detail, and life-like vigour of Development. Of these beautiful specimens of British art, the admiration of all competent judges, a very large assortment will be found in the Stove and Fender Department of GEORGE and JOHN DEANE'S GENERAL FURNISHING SHOW ROOMS; and G. and J. Deane are able to offer them at Prices so low as to defray competition. In that department of their business assigned to Clocks, Watches, Plate, Jewellery, and Cutlery, G. and J. Deane have, also, collected a beautiful assortment of Coalbrookdale Statuettes, Busts, Vases, Fruit Plates, &c. Amongst the former, are striking likenesses of Cobden, Franklin, Napoleon, and Wellington. The charges for which put them within the reach of the most economical purchasers. GEORGE and JOHN DEANE'S Show-rooms, Warehouses, and Manufactories, opening to the Monument, 46, King William-street, London-bridge.

SPRING NOVELTIES FOR GENTLEMEN.

SAMUEL, BROTHERS, have determined that the arrangements for the present year shall surpass in magnitude and beauty every former effort. One of the most protracted winters within the memory of man has rendered the customary changes of the wardrobe at this period of the year more than usually extensive and necessary, and S. B. have provided accordingly. Their warehouses are replete with a stock of fabrics in CLOTHS, SILKS, and TWEEDS, which, for durability, beauty, and texture, cannot be matched by any competing house in town or country; and these will be offered to a discerning and generous public at prices suited to the pressure of the times. The bespoke department is conducted on an entirely new system, which has given unqualified satisfaction.

The largest stock of summer coats and clothing in London. We quote a few of our prices, but respectfully invite our friends and the public to an inspection of the same. At the annexed prices we have the following fashionable shapes:—

The Albert, the Paletot, the Codrington, the Polka, the Cape, the Chesterfield, the Athol, the Russell, and the D'Orsay.

s. d. s. d. s. d. s. d.

Cachmere	10 6 to 14 0	Tweed Trouser.....	12 0
Silk lined do.....	19 0	Scot do.....	9 0 to 15 0
Extra do.....	26 0	Black Cassimere....	9 6 to 17 0
Summer cloth.....	16 0	Samuel, Brothers',	much admired
Fine Saxony Llamas	20 0 to 32 0	French style Trou-	throughout with silk.....
Richly trimmed, lined	35 0	ser.....	15 0 to 22 0
Superfine Cloth Dress	21 0 to 25 0	Vests in endless variety, at any	price
Coats, from.....	26 0 to 30 0	Boys' Hussar Suits, from.....	17 0
Saxony ditto.....	31 9 to 49 0	Ditto Tunie.....	17 0
Very Superior.....	31 9 to 49 0	Ditto Cloth Jackets.....	8 6
Frock Coats 3s. extra.		Dressing Gowns.....	8 0
Fancy Doeskin Trou-			
ser.....	8 6 to 15 0		

Every description of boys' and youths' clothing. Mourning, to any extent, always ready. A guide to self-measurement and patterns sent to any part of the kingdom.

Observe the address—SAMUEL, BROTHERS, tailors, wholesale and retail woollen drapers, &c., 29, Ludgate-hill, two doors from the Old Bailey.

FEET.—EASE in WALKING.—HALL and CO., Wellington-street, Strand, near Waterloo-bridge.—The PANUS CORIUM, or LEATHER-CLOTH BOOTS and SHOES, are the softest and easiest ever worn. They yield to the action of the feet without the slightest pressure of drawing effect on the most sensitive Corns, Bunions, Gout, or tenderness from any other cause. They resemble the finest leather, and are more durable. HALL and CO.'S SPRING BOOTS supersede lacing or buttoning, and are a great comfort to the ankles. Their Waterproof Portable Dresses for Gentlemen, 2ls. Ladies' Cardinal Cloaks, with Hoods, 18s., which can be carried in the pocket with convenience.

STOOPING of the SHOULDERS and CONTRACTION of the CHEST are entirely prevented, and gently and effectually removed in Youth, and Ladies and Gentlemen, by the occasional use of the IMPROVED ELASTIC CHEST EXPANDER, which is light, simple, easily applied either above or beneath the dress, and worn without any uncomfortable constraint, or impediment to exercise. Sent per post, by Mr. ALFRED BINYON, Sole Manufacturer and Proprietor, 40, Tavistock-street, Covent-garden, London; or full particulars, with Prices and Mode of Measurement, on receipt of a postage-stamps.

GREEN-GINGER WINE.

STIVENS' Original Green-Ginger Wine has been pronounced, by the most eminent Medical men in the kingdom, as the best British Wine manufactured, and well worthy of the extended patronage it continues increasingly to receive.

Observe the

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE for watching over the INTERESTS of PROTESTANT DISSENTERS at the ensuing GENERAL ELECTION.

SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., Chairman.

All communications to this Committee may in future be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. CHARLES WALKER, at the Offices of the Committee, No. 16, New Broad-street, London.

June 12th, 1847.

CONFERENCE OF NONCONFORMISTS AT NORWICH.

AT a very numerous and influential Meeting of Nonconformist Electors, resident in Norwich, East and West Norfolk, Yarmouth, and Thetford; held at the Assembly Rooms, in the City of Norwich, on Monday, the 14th day of June, 1847.

THE MAYOR OF NORWICH in the Chair,

It was moved by J. H. Tillett, Esq., of Norwich; seconded by J. W. Shelley, Esq., of Great Yarmouth, and unanimously carried:—

That the tendencies of public events give high probability to the prevailing opinion, that subjects relating to the province of the Legislature in religious affairs will soon occupy and engross public attention; it is therefore of great importance that Nonconformists should be prepared firmly to adhere to those great principles which constitute the basis of religious freedom and equality; viz. that the civil government has no right to intermeddle with spiritual affairs, or endow any religious sect out of national funds.

It was moved by Mr. Alderman Blunderfield; seconded by Mr. Meachen, of East Dereham; supported by the Rev. W. Brock, and unanimously carried:—

That the measure of Education recently sanctioned by the Legislature, the endowment of the Roman Catholic priesthood, avowedly contemplated by leading statesmen, and the payment by the State of the religious teachers of all sects, which many politicians have expressly approved, furnish irresistible motives to all Nonconformist Electors to be faithful to their principles, and withhold support from any person who would give his vote in favour of any of such measures when proposed in Parliament.

It was moved by Mr. Thomas Harmer, of Norwich; seconded by J. W. Dowson, Esq.; supported by Mr. Robert Cooke, of Stalham, Rev. J. Browne, of North Walsham, Mr. Gower, of Dilham, &c.; and unanimously adopted:—

That this Meeting deems it highly desirable that a deputation should wait upon S. M. Peto, Esq., one of the candidates for the representation of Norwich, and obtain from him a definite expression of his sentiments upon the important questions that have been brought before this Conference.

That Messrs. Jeremiah Colman, Samuel Blunderfield, W. E. Etheridge, E. Blakeley, Jeremiah Butcher, Carl, Darkins, Joseph Geldart, jun., J. H. Tillett, J. W. Dowson, and Thomas Harmer, constitute the Deputation, who shall publish as speedily as possible the result of their interview.

JEREMIAH COLMAN, Chairman.

NORTH ESSEX ELECTION.

AT a MEETING of the LIBERAL ELECTORS of BRAINTREE and BOCKING, convened by public advertisement, held at the HORN INN, BRAINTREE, on SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1847. "To consider the claims of Mr. REBOW to their support at the coming election."

It was resolved:—

1. That in the printed address of Mr. Rebaw to the electors of North Essex, we, the Liberal electors of Braintree and Bocking, are totally unable to discover any real difference between the principles declared by him, and such, as being in other cases connected with some Conservative name are, more frankly, put forth as Conservative principles. Upon all the practical questions of the day, involving the great principles of commercial freedom, of political freedom, and of religious freedom, Mr. Rebaw appears to us to be as simply and positively conservative as Sir John Tyrell himself, who has declared he would adopt for his own every word in Mr. Rebaw's address in which anything like a political principle is indicated, taking exception only to its concluding sentence, in which some sort of qualified support is promised to Lord John Russell, as Prime Minister, a matter in these days of mere party arrangement, involving no distinctive principle, or policy of Government whatever.

2. That while we deeply feel the falseness and practical injustice of the existing representation of the county and boroughs of North Essex by the boasted phalanx of the Conservative Ten, we have at least the consolation of knowing, that the existence in Essex of a large minority of decided and uncompromising Liberals is nevertheless recognized both within and without the walls of Parliament, and is not without its due weight in qualifying the otherwise inordinate influence of a Tory vote for every seat within the county, and that the time will surely come, and sooner perhaps than commonly anticipated, when the Liberals of North Essex, having honestly asserted their principles and maintained their integrity throughout the season of their depression, will regain such a share in its representation, as may be fairly due to their relative numbers, intelligence, and activity.

3. That meanwhile it is altogether indifferent to us, as Liberal electors, whether Conservatives may be pleased to support the pretensions of Mr. Rebaw, or may choose rather to send for Major Beresford; but that it is of the utmost possible importance that the advocates of Civil and Religious Liberty in this county, shut out as they are for the present from any share in its direct representation, should preserve to themselves the undamaged power of urging their rightful demands upon the attention of Government, by influential deputations and petitions, and not to put it in the power of any Conservative supporter of Lord John Russell to put down or destroy the force of their most earnest appeals, by saying to him, or to any future Minister, "I am their chosen representative, I declared myself utterly opposed to the principles of Free-trade—and the Liberals of Essex rallied around me!"

"I spoke of protection to agriculture as a thing gone by; but I gave no word of promise as to an improved tenure of the land—the security of equitable leases—freedom from antiquated restrictions upon the courses of husbandry—delivery from the ravages of preserved game—a tenant property in tenant's buildings and unexhausted improvements—I gave no word of promise as to any one thing by which the tiller of the soil might acquire more personal independence than the tenant at will can always venture to assert—and the Liberal tenant-farmers of Essex crowded around my standard, and claimed me for their own!"

"No word from me gave promise or hope for any extension of the suffrage, or for protection in its honest exercise, or for the repeal of the rate-paying clauses in the borough franchise, or for any one thing that would increase the share of the people in their Government, but I consented to go to the poll under a yellow flag, and the Reformers of Essex showed me, that that was all they understood or wanted, and by that, every aspiration of their souls, and every desire of their hearts was satisfied!"

"I declared myself devoted to the principle of endowment by the State of a religious sect, so long as my own sect, however small a minority of the people, as in Ireland, monopolized all such State-endowment, and I confessed my desire to increase the number of our bishops at home and abroad: I declared myself the upholder of a system by which national property is appropriated to sectarian uses, and men are taxed by church-rates for the support of religious services repugnant to their consciences; I advocated generally the Government measure of education, and expressed no concern for any such modifications of it (should any such be possible) while the union of Church and State lasts)—I might exempt Dissenters from contribution for teaching the Church catechism, or which might enable districts, without being brought under the religious teaching of the Church, or exempted from it merely as matter of favour and not of right by parochial clergymen; and thus declaring myself—the Dissenting Liberals of Essex yielded me their confidence, and sent me to Parliament the adopted representative of their principles—or at least, the practical demonstration in the face of the country, that a Ministry may utterly disregard what Dissenters hold sacred, and violate what they sincerely deem the rights of conscience, and not thereby hazard the loss, of even the feeblest supporter in Parliament!"

4. That for these considerations we, the Liberal electors of Braintree and Bocking, resolve to take no part in the coming election as between the present candidates, nor to interpose in any way, unless some candidate shall yet come forward, whom we could consistently support as the representative of the principles we profess.

SAMUEL COURTAULD, Chairman.

MIDDLESEX ELECTION

AT a MEETING of NONCONFORMISTS, Electors of the County of Middlesex, residing in the Brentford Polling District, held at Brentford, on Tuesday, the 1st of June, 1847.

It was Resolved,—

"That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Anti-state-church Conference, lately held at Crosby-hall, and for the reasons then stated, the electors of this district be urged to withhold their support, at the ensuing general election, from all candidates who do not declare themselves for the separation of the Church from the State, and against all further State endowments of religion."

J. F. BONTEMS, Secretary.

N.B. Electors in other Districts of Middlesex, and those of Hertfordshire and East Surrey, who may be desirous of co-operating, are requested to communicate with Mr. Bontems.

Ealing, June 1, 1847.

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION, NORMAL SCHOOL.

THE Female Teachers who have been trained at this Establishment during the last twelve months, will be eligible for situations as mistresses of schools at the end of the present month. Applications to be made to the Secretary, 4, Coleman-street-buildings, Moorgate-street.

June 8th, 1847.

FREE ADMISSION EVERY EVENING, from Seven till Nine, to BRUNETTI'S BEAUTIFUL MODEL of ANCIENT JERUSALEM.—As this exquisite work was originally intended for Instruction, not emolument, Mr. BRUNETTI has kindly consented that it shall be thrown OPEN FREE to the PUBLIC as above, with the Popular Descriptive LECTURE by the Gentleman in charge. It is merely expected that each visitor will pay the explanatory instructive book and map, so essential to the beauties of the model. Price of both, only 6d. Children free also; one book of instruction for every two. Morning, as usual, One Shilling.—Brunetti Gallery, 213, Piccadilly, near Regent-circus. A Model of Modern Jerusalem is lately added. A splendid Engraving of Ancient Jerusalem, taken from the Brunetti Model, nearly ready.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL EXAMINATION of the CENTRAL BOYS' SCHOOL, will take place in the SCHOOL-ROOM, BOROUGH-ROAD, on TUESDAY, June 24th, at ELEVEN O'CLOCK precisely.

The Right Hon. the Earl of CHICHESTER, V.P., in the Chair. Admission by Tickets only, which may be obtained on application at the Society's House, Borough-road.

HENRY DUNN, Secretary.

THE NEW ASYLUM FOR INFANT ORPHANS, STAMFORD HILL, for Fatherless Children under eight years of age, without distinction of sex, place, or religious connection.

The GENERAL MEETING and SEVENTH ELECTION of this Charity will be held on MONDAY, the 21st of JUNE, at the HALL OF COMMERCE, THREADNEEDLE-STREET, BANK; when a Report will be presented of the Domestic and Financial state of the Charity, and the several Officers chosen for the ensuing year; after which the Poll will be open for the purpose of Electing TWELVE CHILDREN.

The RIGHT HON. LORD DUDLEY COUTTS STUART has consented to take the Chair at TWELVE o'clock punctually, when the general business will commence, and the Poll will finally close at THREE o'clock precisely.

Suitable accommodation will be provided for Ladies. Attendance daily at the Office, 32, Poultry, from ten till four, where subscriptions will be most thankfully received.

W. H. L. STRUDWICKE, Sub Secretary.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

AT a MEETING of the COMMITTEE of the WEST RIDING AUXILIARY MISSIONARY SOCIETY, held in SQUARE CHAPEL, HALIFAX, JUNE 2, 1847,

W. STANCLIFFE, Esq., Treasurer, in the chair,

It was moved by the Rev. J. Pridie, of Halifax; seconded by the Rev. T. Scales, of Leeds:—

"That this Committee, having witnessed with deep regret the various charges recently brought against the Directors and General Officers of the London Missionary Society, deeply sympathizes with them on the painful occasion, and avows its strong and deliberate conviction that, with all due allowance for human infirmity, the general management of the Society has been conducted most uprightly, wisely, and energetically, and has been altogether such as to claim from this Committee the expression of its warmest thanks."

A subsequent Public Meeting adopted and repeated the general sentiments.

J. G. MIAULL, Secretary.

AT a MEETING of CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS, held at the KING'S HEAD, POULTRY, on FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1847,

Rev. R. T. HUNT, in the Chair,

It was unanimously resolved:—

1. That, in the opinion of this Meeting, the character, constitution, and conduct of our Religious Societies are fairly open to public scrutiny, and that it is especially the right of their members and supporters to discuss the principles by which they are regulated, the nature and extent of their operations, and the general management of their affairs.

2. That the Rev. Dr. Reed, in his recent controversy with the Directors of the London Missionary Society, has, in the judgment of this Meeting, only availed himself of this right, and has been actuated by conscientious motives, and a sincere desire to secure the greater efficiency of the Institution; and, under the peculiar nature and circumstances of the discussion, he has evinced a spirit at once courteous, dignified, and Christian.

3. That this meeting deeply regrets the indications that have been given of an unrelenting and determined spirit of persecution in the means which have been adopted to damage Dr. Reed's social position, and to exclude him from the fellowship of his ministerial brethren, particularly in the character and tone of the articles which have appeared in the "Evangelical Magazine" and "Christian Witness," in the exclusion of documents essential to his vindication from both these publications, and in the unavailing attempt to induce his retirement from the Congregational Board, and to sever his connexion with a charitable institution. From the oppressive course which has been pursued in this instance, this meeting cannot but mark a disposition to intimidate others in the maintenance of the right of free discussion, and to deter them from the attempt to effect the salutary reforms necessary to the permanency and continued prosperity of our religious institutions.

4. That this meeting, therefore, tenders to Dr. Reed the expression of its cordial sympathy with him under the harsh, unjust, and unchristian treatment to which he has been subjected—the assurance of its undiminished esteem for his personal character, and high appreciation of his ministerial talents and usefulness; and while recording its sense of the value of his numerous and successful efforts in the cause of religion and philanthropy, especially of his devoted and persevering labours in behalf of the widow and orphan, it cherishes the hope that, to the honour which God has thus abundantly conferred upon him, will be added that of greatly promoting such changes in the relations and improvements in the management, not only of the London Missionary Society, but of our religious institutions generally, as will render them increasingly worthy of public confidence, better adapted to secure the important ends of their formation, and more conducive to the Divine glory.

5. That an address, founded on the above resolutions, be presented to the Rev. Dr. Reed.

(Signed) R. T. HUNT, Chairman,

June 11, 1847.

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TO MINISTERS AND CONGREGATIONS.

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IRISH EVANGELICAL SOCIETY.

THE Committee continue to receive most distressing accounts from various parts of Ireland, of the prevailing destitution, notwithstanding the efforts which have been made to mitigate the wide-spread distress. Disease is hurrying multitudes to the grave. It is a satisfaction to know that the relief administered by the Agents of the Society, and others who have been made the almoners of the Churches' bounty, has awakened the heartfelt gratitude of the poor, and excited the admiration of all. The following extract from a provincial paper, in the interest of the Catholic party, was forwarded to the Secretary, "to show how the generous and charitable conduct of the Society has been appreciated by those who are supposed to be our opponents in religion and politics":—

"**THE EVANGELICALS OF CASTLEBAR.**—The Committee of this Christian body in this town are labouring hard in their charitable vocation in relieving the poor. We are happy to state, for the information of their liberal friends in England, that nothing of a sectarian nature has ever crept into their mode of distributing relief. Nay, they scorn the idea of making yellow meal converts, many of which, we are told, they would get during the prevalence of the famine. The conduct pursued by those gentlemen speaks well for their order."

Contributions continue to be received at the Office of the Society, No. 7, Blomfield-street, Finsbury.

THOMAS JAMES, Secretary.

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